

Luke 9:1-17

Jesus: The Master Chef

Scripture: Luke 9:1-17

Memory Verse: Luke 9:16 *“Then He took the five loaves and the two fish...and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude.”*

Lesson Focus: In this passage, we encounter what is perhaps the pinnacle of Jesus’s miracle ministry: the feeding of the 5000. We hope the kids will be astonished at yet another highlight of His ministry, but we also want them to see the role the disciples play in this passage. Jesus empowers them to join Him in ministry and we want to challenge the kids to do the same!

Activities and Crafts: Coloring Picture of Boy Giving Food to Jesus, Word Search of different terms from lesson, Bring it Home Discussion for 3rd – 5th.
Craft for 1st/2nd grade: Basket of Bread and Fish

Starter Activity: Favorite Foods

Something that all kids are interested in is food! To get the lesson started, ask the kids what some of their favorite foods are. Be creative and come up with ways to get them thinking about different kinds of foods. Some ideas:

- 1) Ask them that if they are at an all-you-can eat buffet, what part of the buffet they would go to first?
- 2) Ask around to see what some of the most unusual foods they have tried are. (i.e. sushi, calamari, etc.) *
- 3) Ask them what are some of their favorite restaurants and why.
- 4) Ask them if they have ever watched the Great British Baking Show and why they like it.
- 5) Ask them if they have ever helped in the kitchen preparing food for the family and how they have helped.

That last question is a great lead into our lesson as we are going to read about how Jesus miraculously “prepares” food for the people. Jesus will use food, something we all need and love, to teach the people and reveal to them Who He is. As we have said many times already in our study of Luke, miracles were designed by Jesus to challenge people to trust in Him as the Savior of the world and believe in Him as the Son of God. We will see that here as well, but we are also going to see Jesus empowering His closest disciples, those who believe and trust in Him, to join Him in ministry.

Let’s take a look!

Bible Study:

Luke 9:1: Whoa! Think about that for a second. The same power and authority through which Jesus has done many of the miraculous things we have been reading about He now gives to His twelve disciples!

Q: If you had this kind of power, what would you do with it? *

Luke 9:2: But they received this power to help them in the much more important job of preaching the gospel! * Just like Jesus worked miracles to get people's attention and challenge them to turn to Him, the disciples will do the same to point people to Jesus!

Luke 9:3: Check out Jesus's packing list!

Q: What do you pack when you go on a road trip? A: A lot more than this! They are being challenged to trust Jesus on this little missionary trip.

Luke 9:4-6: Jesus is sending the disciples out on a sort of missionary "test-drive".

Q: How did many of you learn how to ride a bike? * It wasn't until your Mom or Dad "let go" and empowered you to pedal alone that you mastered riding the bike!

In the same way, Jesus is getting His disciples ready for when He will "let go" (after His death, resurrection, and ascension) to have them spread the gospel to the whole world without being physically with them.

Luke 9:7-9: It appears that Jesus's ministry is attracting even the attention of the government leaders like Herod. This Herod is the same guy we learned about a few weeks ago that murdered John the Baptist for speaking out about his sin. *

Luke 9:10-11: After the disciples return and report all they had done *, Jesus tries to get them all away from the crowds, but no such luck. The crowds continue to press in on Him. (**Teachers:** To help the kids understand what this might have been like, pick a child to be "it" and have him/her walk around the room. Then pick several other children to follow and swarm around whoever is "it". Afterwards, ask whoever was "it" how it felt to be unable to get away from the crowd)

Jesus denies Himself this rest and teaches them and heals them. * Why? Because He cares about them as we have seen many times before in Luke.

Luke 9:12: But notice the disciples' reaction to the crowds. They seem annoyed, don't they? They even seem a little bossy telling Jesus what to do. *

Luke 9:13a: So much for bossing Jesus around! Imagine yourself there. There are lots and lots of people swarming around you and Jesus and He looks you in the eye and says, "You feed them". What would you do? *

Luke 9:13b: The disciples gather what they have, but it doesn't appear to be enough. Let's look at John's account of this to get a fuller picture of what actually happened here.

John 6:5-6: Jesus asks Philip a question to test him. He and the other disciples have seen and even performed many miracles already, but Jesus wants to push them harder to test their faith and trust in Him even more.

John 6:7: I think Philip gets an “F” on this test! His answer is kinda like the “I dunno” shrug of the shoulders you kids give to questions you don’t want to answer! Philip sees only the impossible, only the problems.

John 6:8-9: What grade would you give Andrew? I would give him a “C”.

Q: What did he do right? A: He brought this boy to Jesus who had some food.

Q: What did he do wrong? A: He still seems to doubt anything can be done here. *

While we don’t know much about this boy, I want to suggest to you that this boy got the “A” on the test. Though he didn’t have much, **he gave what he had to Jesus!** 5 loaves and 2 fish by themselves isn’t much, but a little is much when you add Jesus to the equation! Let’s return to Luke and see what happens next!

Luke 9:14-15: It says there were 5000 men and including their families, it was probably more like 10000+ people that needed to be fed! *

Luke 9:16-17: Jesus took the five loaves and two fish and fed all ~10,000 of the people? As much as they wanted? WOW! HOW?

Teachers: We will have some snacks that you can give to the kids now * (or feel free to bring your own). I would suggest acting out the scene (give thanks *, pretend to multiply the snacks, have some kids be the disciples who distribute the snacks to each kid, etc.) *

Q: Imagine being there. What did this actually look like? (Let them “chew” on this a bit)

A: You can’t explain this with science or natural laws. This is a miracle, a supernatural work of God! Only God has the creative power to multiply matter like this. *

Q: But notice also who did Jesus use to feed the people? The disciples! Jesus is the great “master chef”, while His disciples merely serve His food. Isn’t that what the Christian life is all about? God uses His people, those who believe in Him, to help and serve others. We are like waiters in a restaurant serving what the master chef prepared in the kitchen!

Key Point: Jesus still wants His people today to bring Himself and the gospel to others. Throughout this text, we see Jesus’s disciples being empowered by Him to nourish both spiritual and physical needs of people. Are you ready to join? *

Maybe you don’t feel like you can do this. Remember the boy who simply brought what he had to Jesus? While it wasn’t much, it was enough for Jesus to use to feed thousands of people. Like that boy, **give what you got** to Jesus! Let Jesus use what you’ve got, however small, to be a blessing to others! (i.e. talents, skills, money, etc.) Jesus uses our TINY resources and multiplies them to accomplish what He wants. And at the end of our lives of faith He says to us, “*Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord.*” (Matthew 25:21)

BRING IT HOME

Read Luke 9:1
If you were given such power, what would you do with it?

Parent Signature:

Parent Challenge:
Who gave what they had for Jesus to use?
(see John 6:9)

Read Luke 9:12-16
Imagine being there! What do you think this looked like?

