

Things to take:

- Question box with pens & paper.
- Door welcome sign, register & rules.
- Bag of dried peas or other counters.
- Small sweets as prizes.
- Mini ring doughnuts & string.
- Salt dough plaques & paints **or** Zig zag cards & coloured pencils **plus spares**.
- Song and PowerPoint.
- Mars bars, chopping boards, hats, gloves, scarves, knives & forks, and dice.

Session Aim:

To show that God gives us everything we need, and we should share this with those who don't have as much.

'Our father in Heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done. Give us today our daily bread'

Matthew 6:9-11

Game as they arrive and register: Cheat

As they arrive, give each person 10 dried peas (or counters of some sort). Explain that whoever has 10 or more peas at the end of the game will get a sweet. They must find someone else in the room, hold out their closed hand and say how many peas they have in their hand, however, they do not have to tell the truth! The other person then has to guess whether they are telling the truth, or cheating – if they guess correctly, the first player must give them one of their peas, but if they guess incorrectly, they must give one of their peas away to the first player.

At the end of the game, demonstrate that some people have very few peas, and others have lots. Ask if anyone would be willing to give away some of their peas so that someone else who had less than 10 can still get a sweet!

Game: Doughnuts on a string

Thread a number of mini ring doughnuts on a length of string and hang it up so that the children can reach it with their mouths. Pick some children to come up to the front to play the game. Each child has to eat their doughnut with their hands firmly behind their back and without the doughnut falling on the floor. The first to finish is the winner.

Rules & Question Box

Memory verse: Salt dough painting/ Zig zag cards - Matthew 6:11

This week the words to paint/write are 'Give us today our daily bread'.

N.B. bring some spares for anyone who missed a week.

Bible bit: The feeding of the 5000 - Mark 6:30-44

Get a leader to tell the story from the point of view of one of Jesus' disciples.

It had been a very long day, and I was tired and worn out. We had been travelling round with Jesus, like we normally do, and people had been following us everywhere we went – we hadn't even had time to stop for a snack, let alone lunch! So Jesus suggested we should get a boat over to the other side of the lake to get some peace and quiet. That sounded like a great idea to me, but when we got there, we found another huge crowd of people waiting to hear Jesus speak!

Well, I was fed up, but Jesus didn't want to send them away, so I sat down grumpily to make the best of it...for a while. Before I knew it, it was getting dark, so I went up to Jesus and suggested that he should send them away to find some dinner, and leave us alone to have ours! But, do you know what Jesus said? He said, "You give them something to eat". Me? Honestly? There were 5000 men there, plus women and children – it would have cost a fortune to buy them all food! Was he crazy?! He gave me one of those 'trust me' looks, so I stomped off to see how much food we actually had.

One boy had a pack-up – 5 measly loaves of bread and two tiddly fish – well, that wasn't going to go very far! Jesus told everyone to sit on the grass, he held it up and said 'thank you' to God for the food. Then told us to go and hand it out. 'This won't take long,' I thought. I gave one man near the front some bread and fish, a nice big chunk – at least one person wouldn't go hungry. Then I gave some to his friend, and then some to the people behind him – it was strange, there was more in my basket than I thought.

I kept going, and so did the other disciples, and soon all 5000 families had been fed. They were all full up too, they looked like they had just had the biggest, best meal ever. "Go and pick up the leftovers," Jesus said, and we collected 12 baskets of food people had been too full to eat! What an amazing miracle! Over 5000 people were full to bursting, and all from one little boy's pack-up!

Talk:

We believe that God provides for all our needs, just like he did for all those people who came to hear Jesus speak. So when we pray in the Lord's Prayer 'give us today our daily bread', we are not just asking God to give us bread, but to give us everything we need, and that's not just physical things like food or a house, but other things too. *What are some of the things we need in life that aren't physical things you can see or touch? (e.g. health, sleep, strength, love, happiness.)*

God can provide for us in lots of different ways too, and it might not always be a miracle like the one in our drama. Sometimes we can be the answer to this part of the Lord's Prayer for other people when we share with those who don't have as much as we do (link back to the first game with the peas, and those who shared with others so they could get a sweet). *What can we do to share what we have with others? (If using this session in Autumn term, you could link to harvest festival.)*

We also believe that we should be thankful for all the things God provides for us, and not take them for granted. *How can we show that we are thankful? (e.g. who says grace before dinner?)*

Pray

Choose a prayer activity from the creative prayer ideas in the 'extras' section of the download, and continue with your prayer journal.

Response: Thank you 'shopping list'

Everyone sits in a circle. Beginning by saying, 'Thank you God for...', the first person has to think of something for which they would like to thank God. The second person must then remember all the previous thank you's, in the right order, and then add their own on the end. It will be most tricky for whoever goes last, so you may want to sit in a circle from youngest to oldest!

Song & Actions: I Give Thanks (to you my heavenly father)

The PowerPoint is in the 'songs' folder of the download. You can purchase the song from iTunes for 79p, or find it on 'Great Big God', a Kids Vineyard Worship CD. We made up our own actions for the chorus so you could do the same or we are very happy to teach you ours!

Game: Mars Bar Game

Set a large mars bar on a chopping board with the scarf, hat, gloves, knife and fork next to it. Get the children sat in a circle around it. They take it in turns to roll the dice, if they get a 6 they can go put the hat, scarf and gloves on and attempt to get some chocolate with the knife and fork before the next person rolls a 6. Keep going until the chocolate has been eaten. (You could substitute the mars bar for chocolate muffins/croissants or bread to fit in with the theme.)

Pray: Kids Rock prayer before they leave.