

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

(S. John 6:1–14)

Jesus went across Lake Galilee (or, Lake Tiberias, as it is also called). A large crowd followed him, because they had seen his miracles of healing the sick. Jesus went up a hill and sat down with his disciples. The time for the Passover Festival was near. Jesus looked around and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, so he asked Philip, “Where can we buy enough food to feed all these people?” (He said this to test Philip; actually he already knew what he would do.) Philip answered, “For everyone to have even a little, it would take more than two hundred silver coins to buy enough bread.” Another one of his disciples, Andrew, who was Simon Peter’s brother, said, “There is a boy here who has five loaves of barley bread and two fish. But they will certainly not be enough for all these people.”

“Make the people sit down,” Jesus told them. (There was a lot of grass there.) So all the people sat down; there were about five thousand men. Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to God, and distributed it to the people who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish,



and they all had as much as they wanted. When they were all full, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces left over; let us not waste a bit.” So they gathered them all and filled twelve baskets with the pieces left over from the five barley loaves which the people had eaten. Seeing this miracle that Jesus had performed, the people there said, “Surely this is the Prophet who was to come into the world!”

Understanding the Story

1. Where does the story take place?
2. Why was a crowd following Jesus?
3. Which disciple found a boy with food?
4. How much food did the boy have?
5. Explain the miracle that Jesus performed:
6. What do we learn about Jesus from this story?



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F F E E D T D L N S Y N T G O D E I
N M U M R E S P D G O S P E L I W Q
E F I S K S W E I B G B B R E A D T
P P Z R J T M T S A U E B Q Z N W M
H R Z A A Y K E C S A N D R E W I H
I O V H W C J R I K P X B I B L E N
L P E J E T L I P E G A L I L E E F
I H Z W E S A E L T V T L Z G D B Z
P E M B I S N H E C R O W D R I D C
R T A U O M U B S G L F I S H N V L
A O F J M Y F S G U T F T S Q U X R
I G M I Y J O H N F H E A L I N G E

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

ANDREW
BASKET
BIBLE
BOY
BREAD
CROWD
DISCIPLES

FEED
FISH
GALILEE
GOD
GOSPEL
HEALING
JESUS

JOHN
MIRACLE
PETER
PHILIP
PROPHET
TEST



How many of these words appear in today's reading from St John's Gospel? Read the passage again and underline any words you recognise from the word search!

