

October 26, 1997

Luke 9

Early Childhood

BLUK08EC

Jesus Is the Christ of God!

Materials I Need:

Memory Verse:

They left everything and followed Jesus. Luke 5:11

Aim Questions for 2's & 3's:

1. Did people like to listen to Jesus preach about the kingdom of God? *(Yes)*
2. Did some people think Jesus was the prophet Jeremiah? Did some people think Jesus was the prophet Isaiah? *(Yes)*
3. Tell about what happened when Jesus fed the 5,000 people? *(The disciples sat them on the grass. Jesus kept breaking off more bread and fish.)*
4. Did Peter believe that Jesus was the Christ of God? *(Yes)*
5. Who do you say Jesus is? *(He is the Christ of God.)*

Aim Questions for 4's, 5's & K:

1. What did Jesus send the disciples out to do? *(They preached about the kingdom of God and healed people from town to town.)*
2. Who did people say Jesus was? *(A prophet, a healer)*
3. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do when the people got hungry? *(Feed the people.)*
4. Why could Jesus feed 5,000 people with five loaves of bread and two fish? *(He's the Christ of God.)*
5. Did Jesus tell the disciples that following Him would be easy or not easy? *(Not easy)*
6. Who did Peter believe Jesus was? *(The Christ, the holy Son of God)*

Key for symbols:

- This box symbol represents ideas that can be used for two-year-olds through kindergarten. Please remember to slow down the pace for two-year-olds and keep the pace moving for five-year-olds.
- ② This symbol represents ideas that are best used for two- and three-year-olds.
- ④ This symbol represents ideas that are best used for four-year-olds through kindergarten.



Hook:

- "Guess Who I Am" Game:** Put on different uniforms or ask a policeman, a person in the military, a football player, etc., to come to class. Ask the children, "Who do you say I am?" The children will guess who you are or who you are pretending to be. In today's Bible Adventure, people thought different things about Jesus and who He was. Some people thought Jesus was the prophet Jeremiah who had come back to life. Other people thought Jesus was Isaiah come back to life. In today's Bible Adventure, we will find out who the disciples thought Jesus was.
- Kitchen Center:** Ask children to prepare and serve a pretend meal for guests who are coming. Ask the Children's Department to bring a kitchen set with dishes and utensils. An alternative to using play dishes would be to find pictures of food in magazines and glue them on paper plates to serve the guests. In today's Bible Adventure, we're going to hear about a lunch.

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- Lunch Basket Center:** Fold a piece of construction paper in half and staple or tape the edges closed. Decorate like the children's favorite lunch boxes. Find pictures in magazines of food that they would like to put in their lunch boxes. "In the Bible Adventure today, we will find out what some other people put in their lunch basket."
 - Taped Sounds Center:** Bring a cassette tape recorder and tape the children playing and the people gathered in the hall before the church service. Let the children listen to the crowd. Talk about what they might be talking about. "In the Bible Adventure, some people are gathered and they are talking about Jesus. You will have to wait and find out what is being said."
 - Singing Game Center:** As you sing the song "One Little Fish," take a child from the group and walk hand in hand around the room. Continue taking children by the hand until all are holding hands and walking. On the last verse, say, "Now the fish's day is done. We will be talking more about fish. Listen for them in our Adventure today."
 - Memory Verse Review:** Play "Follow the Leader." The disciples followed Jesus and wanted to do what He did. At this center, the children will follow the teacher in doing exercises, practicing rhythm with clapping hands, instruments or marching feet. Periodically, say the memory verse. Let the children say the verse together and then individually.
 - ④ **Counting Fun:** Count things that the children see in the room. Give the children a sandwich bag with twelve fish crackers in it. Jesus' disciples collected twelve baskets of food after everyone had eaten. Let the children count and separate the crackers into different amounts, like twos, fives, etc. Count how many children are in the room and how many fish they have together. "That sounds like a lot but you are going to hear about more than that today. Listen for the number 5,000 in the Bible Adventure."



Book:

Presentation Ideas -

- Use the **BLUK08ECGF1** and **BLUK08ECGF2** pictures as you tell the Bible Adventure.
- Put blankets down and have the children sit on them as though you are having a picnic. Bring a picnic basket. Break bread and pass it to children as you tell that part of the story. You may want to use a small loaf or a roll so that you run out. Bring more rolls from the picnic basket, using up to five rolls. Talk about how you had extra bread in your picnic basket when you ran out. Jesus never ran out. It was a miracle because He is the holy Son of God.
- ④ Use the four ears you used last week as you tell about the various kinds of responses that Jesus and His disciples received from the people as they went out preaching.

Bible Adventure for 2's & 3's -

Jesus' words had great power. When Jesus spoke, things happened, (*Snap your finger!*) just like that! Jesus has powerful words because He is the holy Son of God. (*Review the Luke 1:35 memory verse as you show one of BLUK02ECGF Bible Adventure pictures.*)

People kept coming to Jesus and listening to His powerful words. Jesus talked about the kingdom of God and what His kingdom is like. The disciples loved listening to Jesus' words. (*Review the Luke 5:11 memory verse, "They left everything and followed Jesus."*)

Other people loved listening to Jesus' words and being healed from their diseases. One day, when Jesus and His disciples were far away from town, crowds of people found Him. He welcomed them and told them about the kingdom of God. He spent the whole day healing the sick people who came to Him.

When it was getting late in the afternoon, the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Send the people home. They will be getting hungry and there's no food out here."

Jesus wanted to teach the disciples another lesson about being His disciples. Jesus said to them, "You give the people something to eat."

The disciples looked around and all they could find were five loaves of bread and two fish. They knew that would never begin to feed 5,000 people. The disciples said, "This is not enough food for everyone." The disciples forgot that Jesus, the Holy One from God, could get food in a special way.

(*Show the GF2 picture.*) Jesus said to the disciples, "Have the people sit down in groups of fifty." Everyone sat down, waiting to see what Jesus would do. Their stomachs were probably growling with hunger.

Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up to heaven, and thanked His heavenly Father for the food. Then He broke the bread into pieces. He kept breaking the bread and breaking the bread. More bread kept coming from that one loaf. The bread kept coming and coming. The disciples gave the bread pieces to fifty people, then a hundred people, then two hundred people. Jesus did the same with the fish. The fish and bread kept coming until five thousand men and their families were full.

What a miracle! The disciples knew that Jesus was from God. When Jesus later asked His disciples, "Who do you say I am," Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the holy Son of God." It was easy to believe in Jesus when they saw the special miracles He did.

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for Jesus and His powerful words. Thank You for keeping them in the Bible so we can listen to them, too. Help me obey and listen carefully to them and obey them. Amen.

Bible Adventure for 4's, 5's & K -

(*Show the review picture of the farmer scattering the seeds.*) Jesus went from town to town, scattering the Good News Gospel seeds wherever He went. All the people had ears to hear His words, but not all of them wanted to believe that He was the holy Son of God.

(*Show the GF1 picture.*) Jesus sent His twelve disciples out to scatter the Word of God, too, like the farmer in last week's parable story. Jesus said to the disciples, "I am sending you out to preach and heal people. Listen carefully to My instructions so you will know what to do."

Jesus said, "Go from town to town, preaching the good news gospel." (*Sing the Good News Song.*) The people in some towns will be like the hard path. They won't want to hear God's Word. They will not listen to you. Don't get mad at them. Shake the dust off your feet and leave that town." Those people will not be ready for God's kingdom. (*Pretend to shake the dust off your feet.*)

Jesus said, "Don't take any food or money with you as you go from place to place. God will take care of you and give you whatever you need." The disciples obeyed and God gave them power to heal the sick people. They couldn't wait to get back and tell Jesus all that had happened.

Everyone in Israel was talking about Jesus. (*Put on a bathrobe. Tie a cloth on your head, pretending to be a Samaritan man.*) "I am a Samaritan. I live in the town of Samaria. A man named Jesus wanted to stay overnight in our town, but we wouldn't let Him. He's a Jew and Jews don't like Samaritans, so we said, 'No! You can't stay in our town. You are not the Holy One from God.'" (*For 4's & 5's, add, "They had hard hearts, like the hard path."*)

(*Put on a crown.*) "I'm King Herod. I keep hearing about Jesus and I'd like to know what He's up to. Does He want to be king of Israel instead of me? Is He going to try to take away my kingdom? I don't want anyone around who tries to take away my job. I'd like to talk to Jesus and find out what He's really doing." (*For 4's & 5's, add, "King Herod had a hard heart. He said he had ears to hear Jesus' words, but he didn't want to believe that Jesus was the Holy One from God."*)

There were other people who were talking about Jesus. They knew He was someone special. (*Put on a bathrobe. Tie a cloth on your head, pretending to be a Jewish woman.*) "I'm a Jewish woman and Jesus healed me when I was sick. I think Jesus is the prophet Isaiah who has come back to life. I know He must be a prophet. No ordinary person could do the miracles He is doing."

Who did the disciples say Jesus was? They had stayed with Him for quite awhile now and knew about all the miracles He was doing.

Jesus wanted to teach the disciples who He really was. (*Take a loaf of bread and begin passing chunks out to children.*) One hot day when huge crowds of hungry people stayed close to Jesus rather than going home to eat, Jesus asked the disciples to sit them down in groups of fifty people.

Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up to heaven, gave thanks to His heavenly Father, and broke the bread into pieces. He kept breaking the bread and breaking the bread. More bread kept coming from one loaf. The loaf never got smaller, like our loaf is getting. More and more bread kept coming from the same loaf.

The disciples gave the bread pieces to fifty people, then a hundred people, then two hundred people. Jesus did the same with the fish. The fish and bread kept coming until five thousand men and their families were full. The disciples were amazed when everyone had enough food to eat, with twelve baskets of food left over.

Jesus said to His disciples, "Who do you say I am?" Peter had been listening carefully to Jesus' words for a long time now, and he had been watching what Jesus was doing. Peter knew the answer. He said, "You are the Christ of God." That was the right answer. Jesus is the holy Son of God.

Jesus said to the disciples. "That is true. I am the Christ of God, but it is not easy to leave everything and follow Me. I don't have my own home or my own bed. You won't have your own home or bed, either, but you will live with Me forever in heaven, if you follow Me."

Do you say that Jesus is the Christ of God? Ask two or three children, "Who do you say Jesus is?" (*Encourage them to say, "He is the Christ of God" or the Luke 1:35 memory verse.*)

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for Jesus and His powerful words. Thank You for keeping them in the Bible so we can listen to them, too. Help me obey and listen carefully to them and obey them. Amen.



Look:

- Feeding the 5,000 Coloring Sheet: (BLUK08ECGF3)** Let the children color the bread and fish and then draw many stick people on their coloring sheet. Talk about how Jesus did a miracle to make the small amount of bread and fish feed all of the people.
- Message Center:** What did Jesus ask the disciples to do? He asked them to tell others about Him. He asked them to sow the seeds of the Good News Gospel. A teacher could use the phone to call a child and ask them, "Who is this man, Jesus?" Their response is, "Jesus is Christ, the holy Son of God." Call a friend or grandparent on the phone, make a newspaper or flyer to share with others that Jesus is Christ, the holy Son of God. Bring a video camera and tape the children saying, "Jesus is the Christ, the holy Son of God."
- Disciples Went Preaching Coloring Page: (BLUK08ECGF1)** As the children color, describe what is happening in the picture. The disciples are scattering the Good News gospel "seeds." Some people had soft hearts and others had hard hearts. Glue a tiny heart on the ones who look like they want to hear about Jesus.
- Bible Adventure Review: (BLUK08ECGF2)** Let the children tell you what is happening in the picture. You may have to go through the pictures once first. Be sure that you emphasize the Aim Questions as the children color their picture. The older children might enjoy making their own story book by cutting out the small pictures and pasting them to construction paper pages.
- Dress Up Center:** Using a box of clothing, hats, shoes, etc., dress up to follow Jesus. We might need gloves, boots, a hat, coat and umbrella. Pretend to be one of the disciples. This is a good time to review the names of the disciples. Jesus told the disciples not to take any extra clothing with them when they went to share the Good News Gospel. Sing the "Disciples Review" song.
- ④ **Guessing Game:** Give the children verbal cues about people in their lives, and let them try to guess about whom you are talking. For instance, these clues might be used for "mom": "I carried my children in my tummy. I cook meals for our family. I read books with you." Give clues for people such as dad, brother/sister, fireman, ballerina, and finish with clues for Jesus. "Today we saw some of the ways that Jesus showed people who He was."
- ④ **"Let's Play Disciples" Role Play:** Divide the class into two groups, disciples and people in a city. Bring old towels, headbands and sandals for the disciples to wear. Ask them what job Jesus gave them to do? "Yes, to share the Good News Gospel from city to city. Well, let's go over here to these people and tell them the Good News." The people can pretend to listen but then say, "No, Jesus is a healer; Jesus is a prophet come to life." The disciples repeat their message and then return to Jesus. "Did Jesus say their job would be easy? No way!" Let the two groups switch roles.
- ④ **Snack Time:** In our Bible Adventure, the small amount of bread and fish kept feeding more and more hungry people. Popcorn grows to be more and more when it is popped. Have the children look at the seeds you are putting in the popcorn popper. It doesn't seem like very much food, but when you put it in the popper, it can feed us all. Talk about how Jesus could do such a miracle because He is the Christ.

Songs:

- Good News!** (*Tune: "Good News: Chariots Are Coming"*)
(*When the teacher sings the first "Good News," he points to himself. When he sings the second "Good News," he points to the children to sing, as though the children are an echo. This needs to be sung very slowly at first.*)

E

Good news! (Good news!) Kingdom is coming!

B7 E
Good news! (Good news!) Kingdom is coming!
Good news! (Good news!) Kingdom is coming!

B7 E
Get ready for the kingdom of God!
(Second Verse) Repent! (Repent!) Kingdom is coming...

(Third Verse) Be glad! (Be glad!) Kingdom is coming...

(Fourth Verse) They left! (They left!) and followed Jesus. They were ready for the kingdom of God.

Five and Two *(Sing to the tune of "Ten Little Indians")*

Five little loaves and two little fishes,
Five little loaves and two little fishes,
Five little loaves and two little fishes,
That's what Jesus had.

(Second Verse)

Jesus is the Son of God, (x3)
Follow Him today.

(Third Verse)

Following Jesus is not easy, (x3)
But He's the only way.

Disciples Followed Jesus *(Tune: "Johnny Works with One Hammer")*

Peter followed Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.
Peter followed Jesus, all the way!
(Continue with all the names of the disciples.)

This Is the Way We Follow Jesus *(To tune of "Mulberry Bush")*

This is the way we follow Jesus, follow Jesus, follow Jesus.
This is the way we follow Jesus, anytime of day.

(Second Verse)

This is the way we call our friend, call our friend, call our friend.
This is the way we call our friend and tell them Jesus loves them.
(Other verses: This is the way we eat our breakfast, read our Bible, put on our clothes, etc. Use your own ideas to expand on this action song.)

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands *(with alternate verses)*

(Key: C guitar player go back and forth between C & G7 on alternate lines)

He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

(Second Verse)

He can feed the five thousand with His hands, (x3)
He's got the whole world in His hands.

(Third Verse)

He can heal the sick ones with His hands, (x3)
He's got the whole world in His hands.

One Little Fish *(Tune: "Ten Little Indians")*

One little fish went out to play
Around the fishy pond one day.
She had such enormous fun
That she called for another one.

(Keep adding one more fish with each verse. Last verse: End with "Now the fish's day is done.")

② **God Is So Good**

God is so good. God is so good. God is so good; He's so good to me.
He gives me food. He gives me food. He gives me food; He's the Christ of God.
He makes me well. He makes me well. He makes me well; He's the Christ of God.

He takes my sin. He takes my sin. He takes my sin; He's the Christ of God.



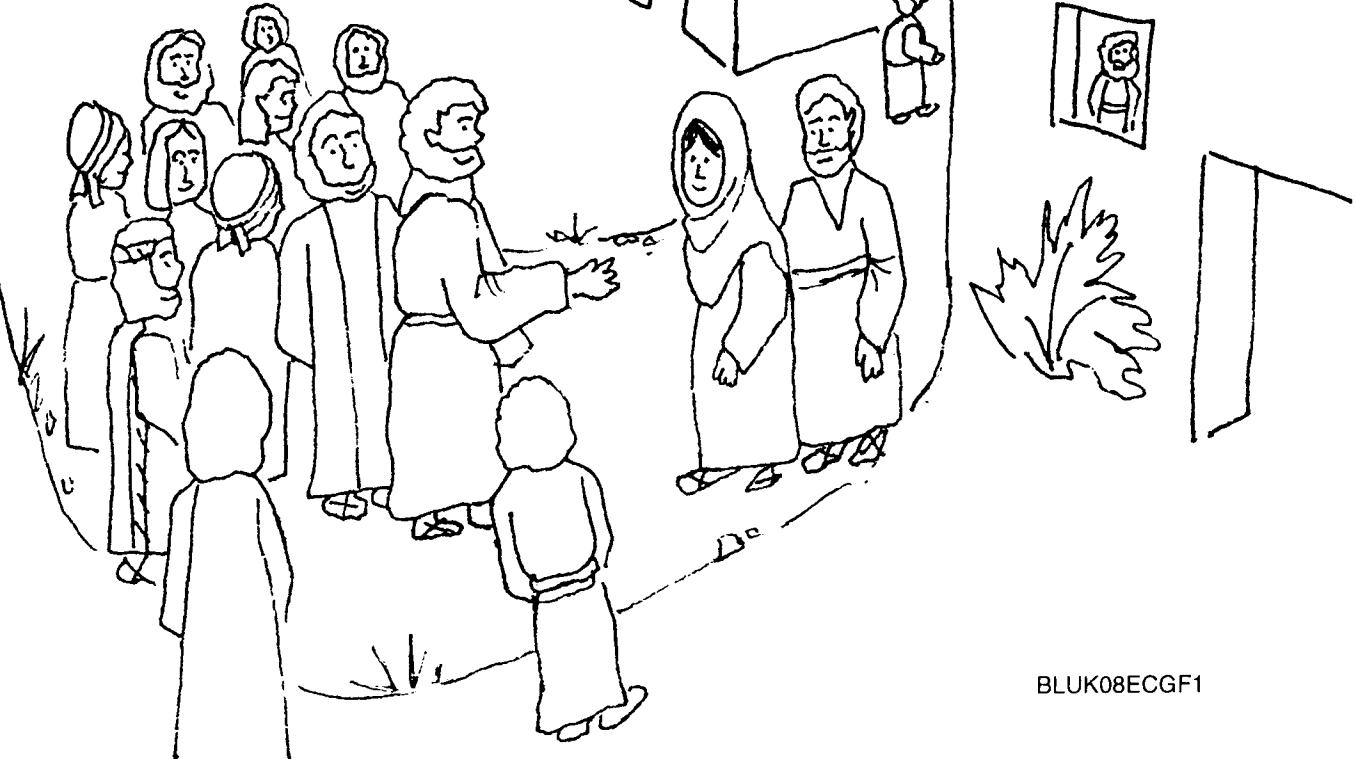
Took:

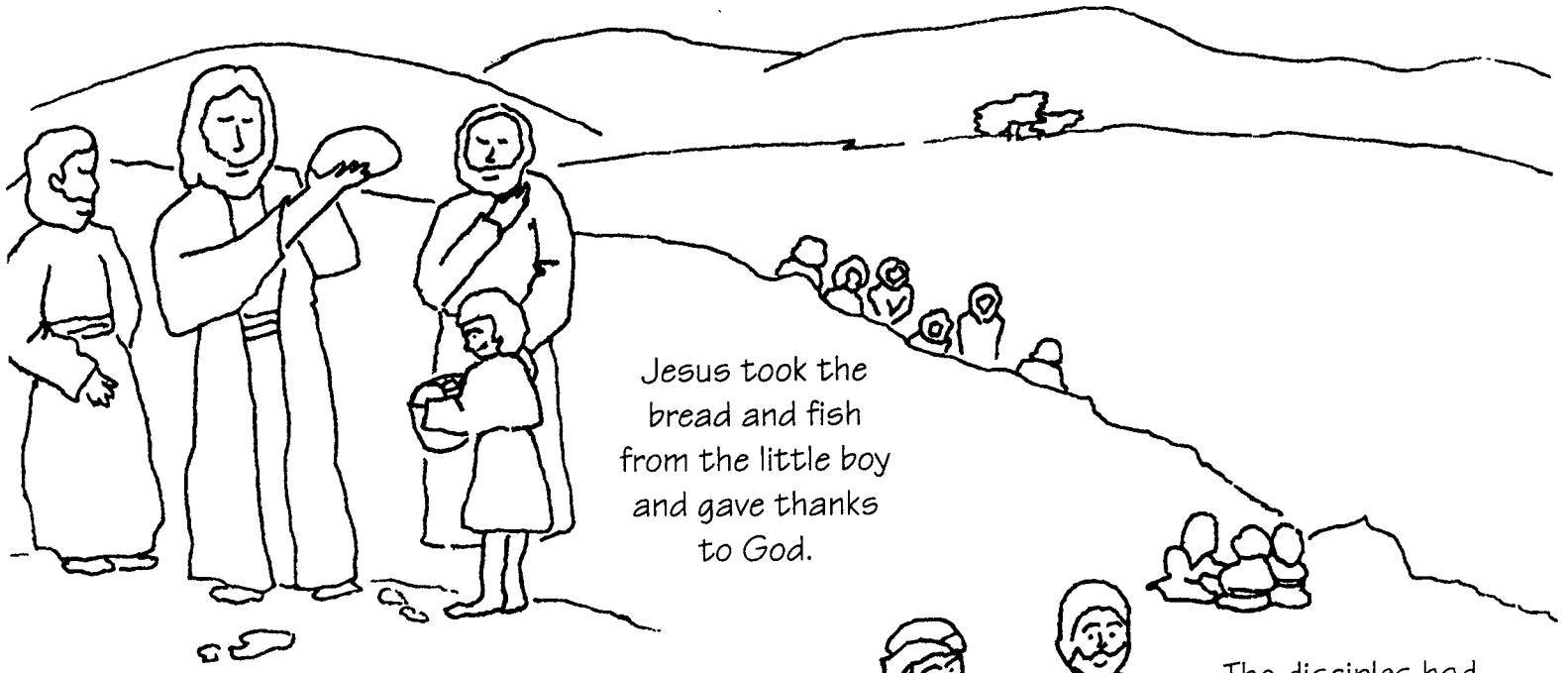
- Reinforcement Story:** Turn out the lights and gather the children around you (or a few children). Hold a flashlight as you tell a brief story. "Peter, James and John were the three disciples who were closest to Jesus. They loved Jesus and wanted to be near Him all the time. Jesus took these three disciples with Him to pray on a mountainside. (*Pretend to walk up a mountain with the children. Take rest breaks--it's a long walk. Sit back down as you continue the story.*) As Jesus was praying, (*Turn the flashlight on your face.*) Jesus' face and clothes began to shine as bright as lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. Peter, James and John looked and saw the glory of God around Jesus and the prophets. Their eyes must have gotten bigger and bigger. Finally, Peter got so excited that he started talking. He said to Jesus, 'This is so great! Let's build three buildings, one for each of you!' While Peter was still talking, a cloud covered the disciples up and they became afraid. A voice came from the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son! Listen to Him!' Peter stopped talking and started listening to Jesus. It is good to listen to Jesus' words. (*Hold up your Bible.*) Who remembers another time, when the voice came from the cloud and said, 'You are My Son. I am pleased with You'?" (*Show a picture of Jesus being baptized.*) Ask the children, "Who do you say Jesus is?" Encourage each one to say, "Jesus is the Christ of God," or "Jesus is the holy Son of God."
- Basket Toss:** After Jesus fed the 5,000 people, there were twelve baskets left over. Let the children make pretend loaves and fish out of crumpled newspaper. Place different baskets behind a masking tape line on the floor. Let the children take turns trying to hit the baskets. Count the number of hits made, up to twelve times. Then begin counting again.
- Necklace Reminder: (BLUK08ECGF4)** Tape the circle with the words "Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God" in the center of an 18" piece of yarn. Let the children color and tape on fish and loaf shapes. Let the children review the Aim Questions and the memory verse as they work.
- Luke Story Review Circles: (BLUK08ECGF5 & BLUK08ECGF6)** Continue using the circles as you have been throughout the Luke study. For older preschoolers, you could glue the GF5 picture circles on the front and back of a GF6 fish. See the Luke Review Methods for review ideas.

Jesus gave the twelve disciples a new job.
They had left their old jobs to follow Him.
They were to go from town to town
spreading the Good
News Gospel "seeds."

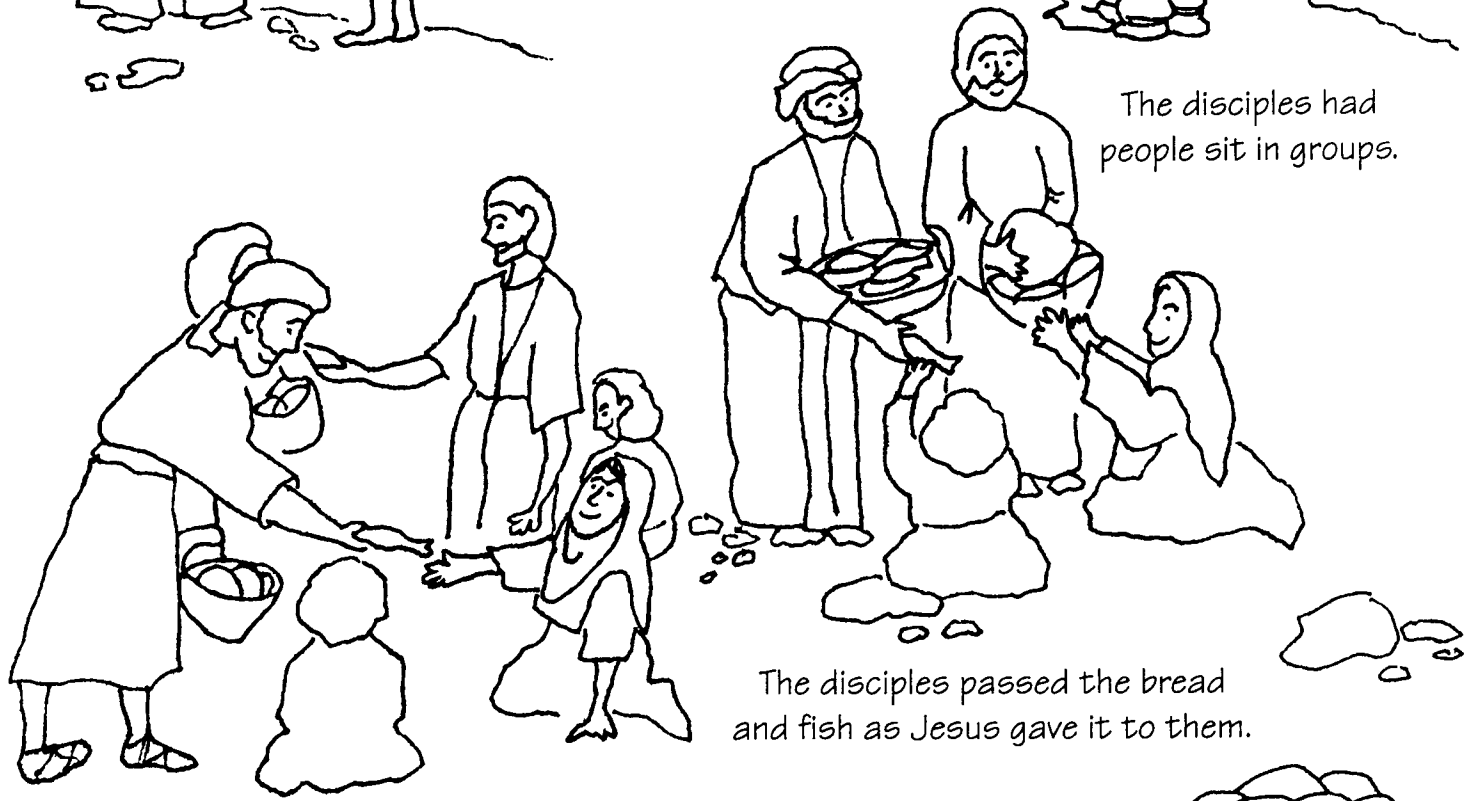


Some of the people listened.
Some had hard hearts
and walked away.





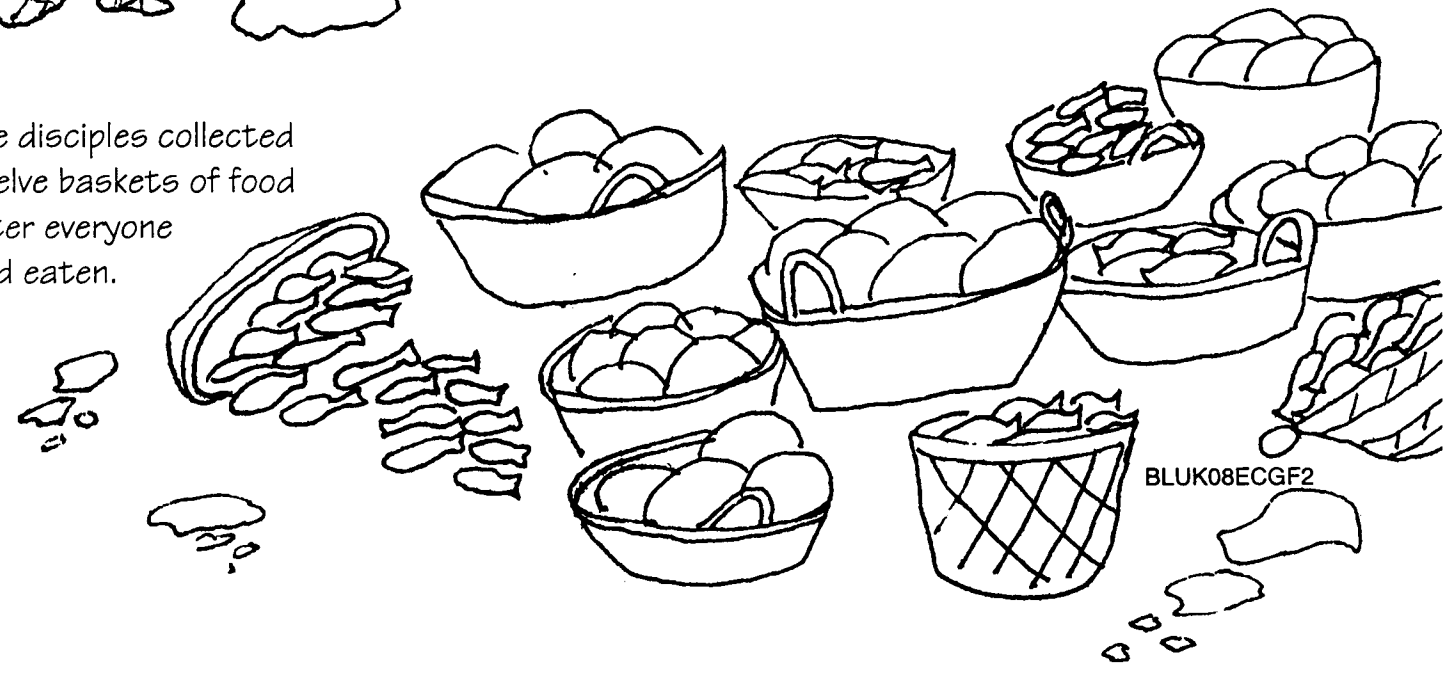
Jesus took the bread and fish from the little boy and gave thanks to God.



The disciples had people sit in groups.

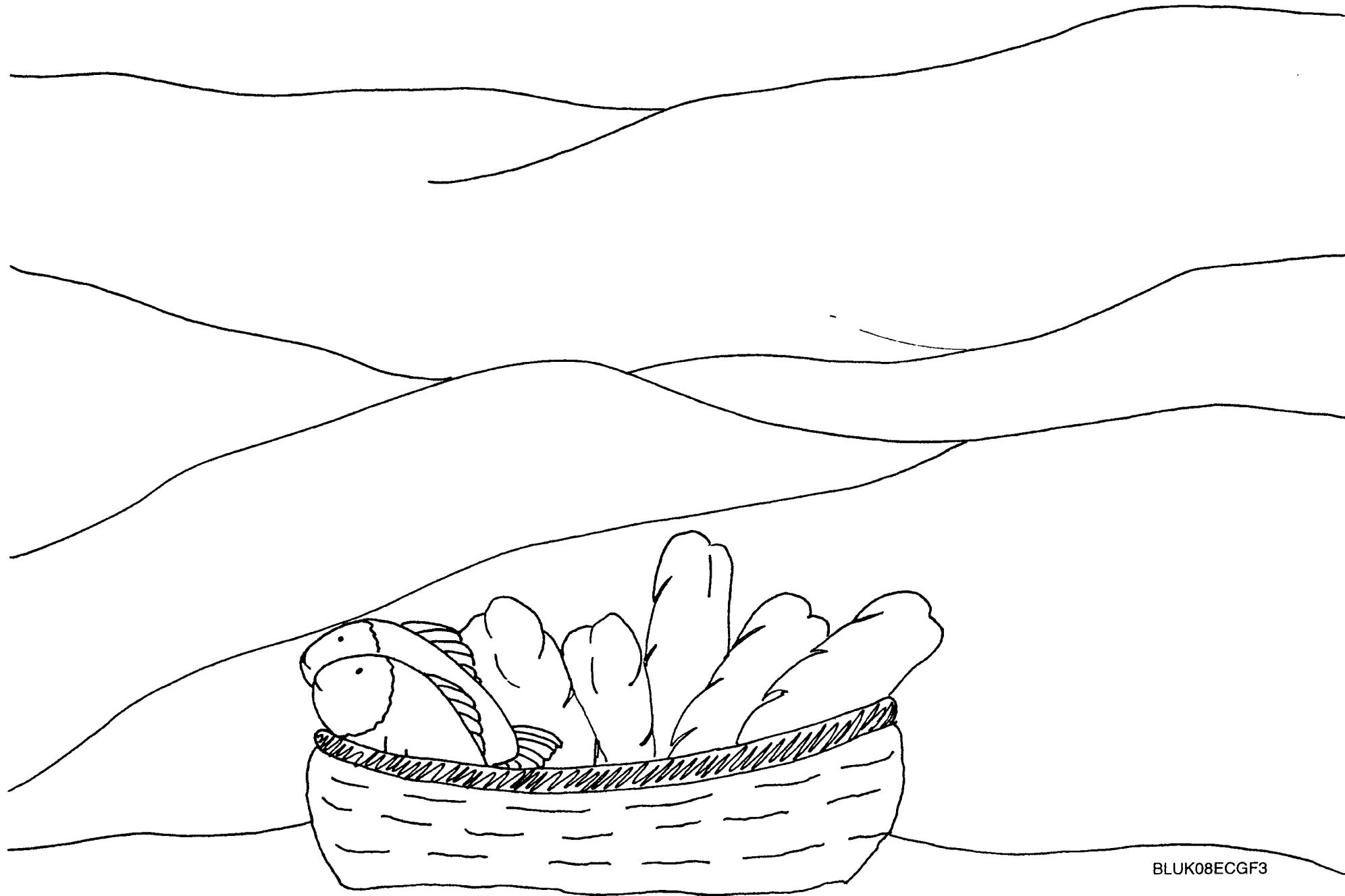
The disciples passed the bread and fish as Jesus gave it to them.

The disciples collected twelve baskets of food after everyone had eaten.



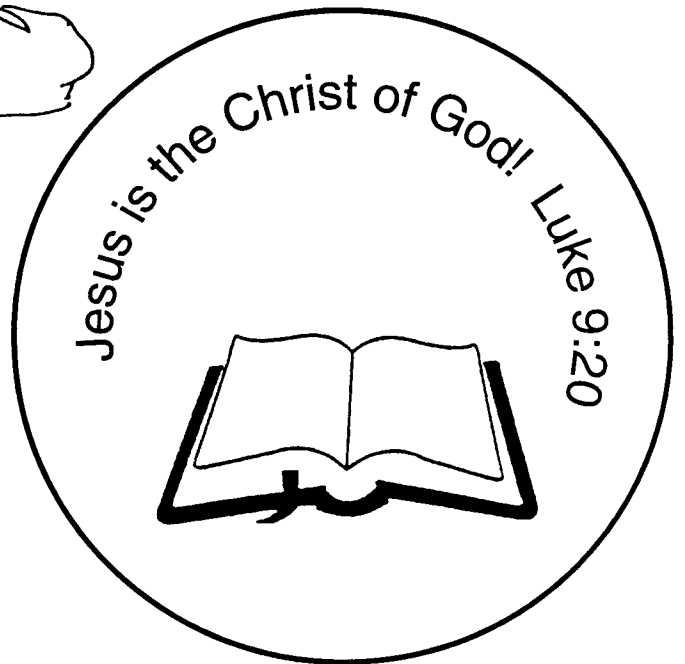
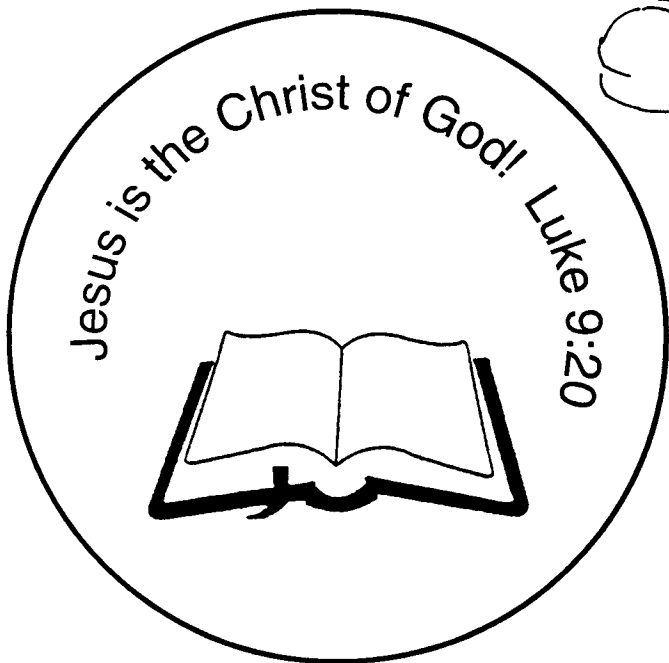
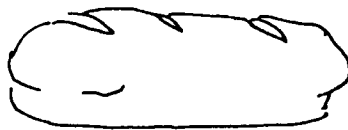
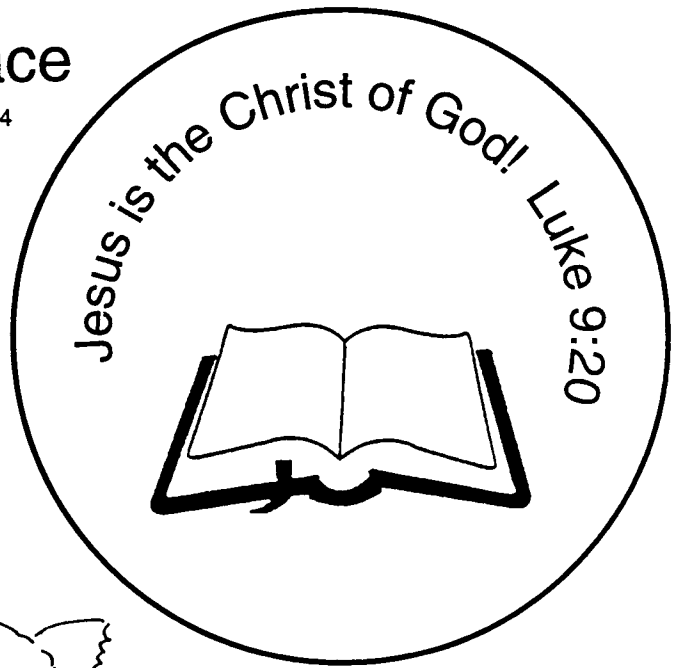
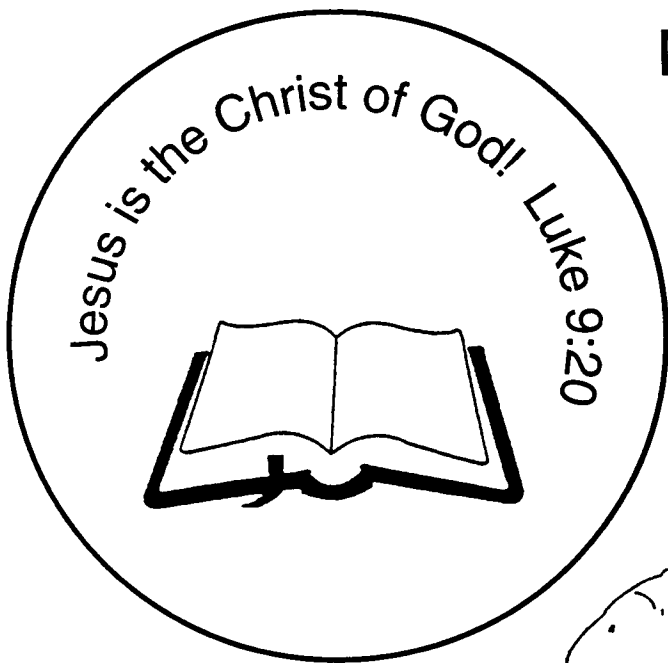
BLUK08ECGF2

Jesus fed 5,000 men and their families with five loaves of bread and two fish.



Necklace

BLUK08ECGF4



STORY
CIRCLES
FOR LUKE
LESSON #8.

