

“Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand”

by
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- What** This the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 and what He can do with our loaves and fishes if we would surrender them to Him.
- Themes: Bible, Miracles, Provision, Trusting God, Belief, Faith
- Who** Actor One- male
Actor Two- male
Actor Three- female
Actor Four- female
*Actors can be either male or female except for One.
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Stool or step, something to elevate Actor One
- Why** John 6:1-15; Ephesians 3:20; Matthew 6:33
- How** This skit is high energy. The idea is to keep things moving as quickly as possible with no down time or lulls in dialogue. Every actor should be completely engaged throughout the whole scene, moving from one scene to the next. Have fun! Speak with lots of energy but be careful to enunciate.
- Time** Approximately 4 minutes

Actors One, Two, Three, and Four enter. One addresses the audience.

One: When Jesus was on earth—

Two: God in a bod.

One: Yes...He was...that. During Jesus' ministry, He did many things to prove that He was, in fact, the Son of God.

Three: Like what?

One: Well, lots of things.

Four: Yeah, He healed the sick, made the blind to see, walked on water, cast out demons...

One: Yes, he did all that—

Four: Made the lame to walk, turned water into wine, made Peter catch a whole bunch of fish, raised people from the dead—

One: Yeah, we don't have time to cover all those miracles, so let's just focus on one of my favorites.

Three: *(to audience)* Jesus didn't start His public ministry until He was about 30.

Two: So, the next time my mom asks me when I'm moving out of the basement, I can just tell her I'm tryin' to be more like Jesus?

Four: Yes. Living in your mom's basement. And single.

Cast pokes fun at him, laughing.

Three: Okay, so, favorite miracle. We're listening.

One: Jesus' ministry was in full swing. Not only did He have 12 disciples, He had masses of people that followed Him around. People that wanted to hear everything He had to say.

*One becomes "Jesus". Two, Three and Four becomes the "masses", trying to get Jesus' attention. *Note- act as if there are numerous other people around.*

One: They had heard that He healed the sick and the blind and they came to Him with all their troubles and to learn from this Master who offered hope.

Four: Jesus! Jesus! Can you help me? My daughter is very sick, and she may die!

Three: Jesus! Are you the Messiah that the prophets foretold?

Four: Jesus! Is it true you come to save us from the Romans?

Two: Jesus! Jesus! Do fish wait to swim after they eat? And why does day break and night fall? Oooh! Can you create a rock so big that you can't pick it up? *(Pauses and looks around)* What? Those are legitimate questions. That they probably asked back in Bible times.

Everyone pauses for a minute, giving Two a strange look, facepalm, deep sigh, shaking head, etc.

Three: *(moving on)* Word had come to Jesus that His cousin, John the Baptist, had just been beheaded by Herod. Jesus was understandably overwhelmed as the masses pressed in on Him. So, He decided to take a break

Four: Get some rest.

Two: Find some peace.

Three: Grieve for his cousin. His friend.

One: So, He got in a boat to seek refuge.

Stands on chair or stool, as if on a boat. Two, Three and Four become the crowd and "follow" after One, miming walking along the shore.

Four: But the crowds followed Him still!

Two: The poor.

Three: The broken.

Four: The helpless.

Three: The sick.

Two: The curious.

One steps off of the stool/chair, and begins to touch Two, Three and Four on the shoulder or on the head.

One: And Jesus had compassion on them...and healed their sick.

Two: So, when the sun began to set, the disciples were ready to pack it up and find some dinner.

Four: They said to Jesus,

Two, Three and Four become the disciples.

Two: *(speaks to One)* Jesus, there are a lot of people here and it's a pretty desolate place. There's not a Chick-fil-A or Cracker Barrel around for miles.

Four: Mmmm...pancakes...

Three: Let's send the people back to town so they can find food. They need to eat.

Four: Jesus looked at His disciple and said,

One: You feed them.

Four: *(to audience)* The disciples were perplexed. How could they feed all these people with no food?

Three: *(to One)* Jesus, how are we going to feed all these people with no food?

Four: Yeah, all we have here *(looks around, sees Two, who becomes the "Boy" and isn't really paying attention, and grabs him)* is this boy that has fish and bread. How are we going to feed the masses with a *(Two is miming holding a basket; Four looks at it and then...)* Lunchable? This isn't even enough for an afternoon snack. For me.

Three: *(to audience)* Now when we say masses, we mean 5,000 people.

One: *(interjecting)* Actually, it was probably more like 20,000 people.

Three: *(without missing a beat)* We mean 20,000 people. Wait, what? I thought this was the story of Jesus feeding the 5000.

One: It is. But the Bible only counted the men. It doesn't account for the women and children.

Two: *(completely amazed)* That's a lot of people.

One: Yep. That's a lot of hungry people.

Three: So wait. You're telling me that Jesus had just learned that one of His closest friends...His cousin...died. Not just died, but was brutally murdered, and...He had compassion?

One: He did. That was Jesus, though. That IS Jesus. He was fully God,

Four: But He was also fully human. He hurt like we hurt and grieved as we grieve. He knows our pain and our struggle.

Two becomes Boy again and offers Jesus his food. One becomes Jesus, narrating through his actions.

One: So Jesus took the kid's fish and bread...

Three: And then He blessed it...

One raises his hands up as if to bless the food.

Two: And suddenly you've got yourself the world's largest picnic.

One begins to pass out the food to the others as they in turn pass out the food to the invisible masses. Use your space here and be creative. You can even walk out into your audience. There's some opportunity here for some comedy as they do this, saying "head's up" as they pretend to throw bread and fish for someone to catch. They can take a bit of the fish and say "mmm, tastes like chicken". Etc.

Four, Two and Three continue miming passing out fish and bread to the people as they deliver their next lines. They are spread out, using the space they have. One is still in his space. He listens with interest and compassion over the next lines.

Four: That's pretty amazing. One kid's tiny lunch and thousands of people leave with a full stomach. *(Pause; thinks)* You know, I wish Jesus would "loaves and fishes" my paycheck. I can barely make ends meet.

Two: I wish He'd "loaves and fishes" my weekend. I could use more time with my family. More rest.

Three: I wish He'd "loaves and fishes" my purpose in life. I just don't feel like I have anything to offer anyone.

One: Our God is a big God and He is able to do abundantly more than we can ever ask or even think *(Eph. 3:20)*. He is a God of miracles. He is our Provider. So take your loaves and fishes...

As each actor says their next line, they return to where One is standing.

Two: ...your time...

Four: ...your income...

Three: ...your gifts and talents...

One: Give them to Jesus and watch what He can do.

Four: Seek first the kingdom of God...

Two: and His righteousness...

Three: then all these things will be added unto you. *(Matthew 6:33)*
Lights out.

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