

READ IT

This week's Bible story is
Jesus Feeds 5,000
from John 6:1-14.

Everyone can be fed and loved by Jesus.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Sea of Galilee • Fragments
- Crowd • Baskets
- Passover • Andrew
- Barley • Signs

Barley was one of the most important food grains in the ancient world, including Israel. It was sometimes used for medicinal purposes as well as being the general food of Roman gladiators, who were called *hordearii* or "barley men."

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 426-431

Spark NRSV Bible pages 1178

Family Prayer

Lord God, we give you our abilities and strengths so that they may be miraculously increased by you. Multiply our gifts so we may share them with others and bless your kingdom. Amen.

TALK ABOUT IT



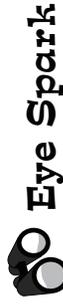
Family Conversations

1 If you add the number of barley loaves and the number of fishes the boy brought for his lunch, how many food items did he give to Jesus? How many items are usually in your lunch?

2 Pretend you are the young boy in the story. Would it be difficult to share your small lunch with a bunch of strangers? Why or why not?

3 What is something you have (like a talent, ability, or possession) that you can ask Jesus to bless and multiply?

4 Have each member of your family tell or show something they can give to Jesus to bless. How could these things help others or share the good news of Jesus Christ in the world?



This week, look for baskets at home, at school, in stores, and everywhere. Each time you see a basket, remember the twelve baskets of food that were left over after Jesus blessed the little boy's lunch.



Listen for the sound of your microwave dinging when your food is hot and ready to eat. Each time you hear it ding, say, "Jesus blessed the bread and the fish and it multiplied!"

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Work together to prepare a pot of barley soup. Make sure each family member helps in some way, whether it's cutting or washing vegetables, opening cans, or cleaning the work area. When your soup is finished, take the pot to a neighbor, a sick person, or a homeless shelter and share the ways that God has blessed your family.

For younger kids

Look through your closet or drawers to find a few items of clothing that you have outgrown. Take the bag to a charity drop-off location. When you do, say a prayer asking God to bless your clothing and to let your clothing help others.

For older kids

With adult permission, use the Internet and find a few barley recipes. Print the recipes off and collect the ingredients you'll need to make them. Cook or bake one of the recipes. Share the tasty treat with your family as you thank Jesus for all the food he provides.



All Kids, Jesus Feeds 5,000 Family Page.

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