LARGE GROUP

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

All I Need Is a Miracle

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand John 6:1-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Use what you have to help others.

HOST SUPPLIES

- Masking or gaffer's tape
- At least 12 balloons (inflated with air, not helium)
- Plastic bin(s) to hold the balloons
- Host's phone (if not using a countdown video)

STORY SUPPLIES

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Prop box containing
 - Oar—ideally one that separates into pieces like you'd use with an inflatable raft
 - Stack of fake money (or money bag)
 - Baguette
 - Large toy fish (plastic, inflatable, pillow, etc.)
 - Basket full of bread pieces

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15 MIN **SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction**

Early Arriver Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- HAPPY FEBRUARY
- COMPASSION Challenge
 - This month we are focused on being good neighbors and showing compassion to those around us.
 - Our challenge is for you to come back each week and share a story of COMPASSION with your leaders.
 - If we hear a great story of COMPASSION, we will share it from stage during the service.

MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

Week 1 - This Is Living & Way Maker

Week 2 - There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do & Never Lost

Week 3 - The Best Is Yet To Come & Graves Into Gardens

Week 4 - Might Get Loud & The Blessing

SMALL GROUP

25

LARGE GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

All I Need Is a Miracle Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand John 6:1-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Use what you have to help others.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord has shown you what is good. He has told you what he requires of you. You must act with justice. You must love to show mercy. And you must be humble as you live in the sight of your God." Micah 6:8, NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter

WORSHIP LEADER:

AUDIO: The Best Is Yet To Come

AUDIO: Graves Into Gardens

Host enters.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND **VERSION**)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER

HOST: "Hi, friends! I'm so glad you're here! This month at [your environment's name] we're talking about compassion.

SLIDE: LIFE APP

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO LIFE APP

"Compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's need.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIFE APP TRANSITION TO THEME

"It's important that we learn to show compassion and care for the people who are on our block. They might live in our actual neighborhood or apartment complex, or maybe we see them at school or at practice. We can share God's love with the people we see every day by [Basic Truth] treating others the way we want to be treated.

PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME	
		25 MINUTES	10 MINUTES			

"Last week, we talked about games we like to play in the neighborhood, and we played tennis ball soccer. Well today, we've got another fun neighborhood game with a twist. It's balloon volleyball!

(Reference the tape line.) "We have two teams—one on this side of the line (gesture to one side), and one on this side (Gesture then hold up a balloon.) I'll toss in a balloon, and your goal is to make sure it doesn't hit the floor on your team's side. Make sure you bop it straight in the air, like this. (Demonstrate.) Work together with your teammates and try to hit it over to the other team's side. (Demonstrate.) "Easy enough, right? Let's give it a try!

AUDIO: FUN MUSIC

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (60-SECOND VERSION)

If you're not using a screen countdown, set a timer on your phone for 60 seconds.

Start the game by tossing in one balloon. Keep adding balloons—one about every five seconds. Announce it to everyone when you do. ("Okay, everyone—here comes another balloon!") Try to toss the balloons in at different places in the room, alternating sides. Comment on the action, and remind the kids to try to hit the balloons to the other team's side of the line.

When the timer runs out, count the balloons on each side. The team with fewer balloons is the winner. If time allows, you can play the game again; just reset the balloons so the teams have the same number at the beginning.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

"That was amazing! And the fun is just getting started. Everyone, pass the balloons up to me.

Collect the balloons in the bin(s)

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters, carrying the prop box

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hi, everyone! I've got another great story of compassion for you. (Hold up Bible.) It's one of the amazing miracles Jesus performed that showed everyone just how special He is! At the time, Jesus and His friends, the disciples, were traveling together. Jesus had been performing amazing miracles and healing people. Everywhere Jesus went, crowds followed Him. They all wanted to be near Jesus and hear what He had to say. They hoped that Jesus might heal them, too.

"One day, Jesus needed some quiet time away from the crowds to rest.

Pull the oar out of the prop box and assemble it.

"So He and His friends rode in a boat across the Sea of Galilee."

Move the oar back and forth like you're paddling through water. Then set it aside.

OVER 5,000 PEOPLE

STORYTELLER: "When Jesus and His friends made it to the other side of the lake, they found that they weren't alone. A HUGE crowd of people had come to see Jesus!

Look out at the audience with your hand above your eyes.

"Let's see . . . in this room, we have about [number] people. (This can just be a ballpark estimate based on your average attendance.) That's a lot of people. But as Jesus and His friends looked out, they could see over 5,000 people who had gathered there by the lake! WHOA!

"Jesus had compassion and taught the people. But after they listened for a long time, the people got hungry. Jesus knew how He would provide food for everyone. But He turned to His friend Philip and asked . . .

Open the Bible to John 6:5 (NIrV) and read.

"Where can we buy bread for these people to eat?

Pull the stack of fake money from the prop box and hold it up in your other hand as you read John 6:7 (NIrV).

"Philip answered him, 'Suppose we were able to buy enough bread for each person to have just a bite. That would take more than half a year's pay!'"

Put the fake money back in to the prop box.

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES

FISH AND BREAD

STORYTELLER: "Then Jesus' friend Andrew spoke up. He said . . .

Open the Bible to John 6:9 (NIrV) and read.

"Here is a boy with five small loaves of barley bread. He also has two small fish. But how far will that go in such a large crowd?

Set down the Bible. Pull the baguette and toy fish from the prop box and hold them up.

"The boy had some bread and fish—but it was only enough for one person. Or at least that's what Andrew thought!

"Jesus had the people sit down. He prayed to thank God for the food . . . then He began to hand out the bread.

Hold the baquette out toward the kids as though you're about to pass it to them.

"He gave the people as much as they wanted. Then He did the same thing with the fish."

Hold the fish out toward the kids as though you're about to pass it to them.

LEFTOVERS FOR DAYS

STORYTELLER: "When everyone had eaten all they wanted, Jesus told the disciples to gather the leftover pieces of bread and fish.

Set the baguette and fish back into the prop box. Pull out the basket full of bread pieces.

"And guess what? They filled up 12 baskets with the LEFTOVERS!

Put the basket back into the prop box.

"The people were absolutely amazed! They could see that Jesus was special. They wondered if He really was the Savior who God had promised. They said . . .

Open the Bible to John 6:14 (NIrV) and read.

"This must be the Prophet who is supposed to come into the world."

Set the prop box aside as you wrap up.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Jesus cared deeply about every single person who was there that day. He was able to use one boy's food to meet each person's need. EVERYONE was able to eat that day, even though there was just a little bit of bread and fish to begin with!

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES

"We all have things we can share, too. You might think that what you have to offer seems small. But God can work THROUGH you in amazing ways! He can help you **use what you have to help others.**

"That's what we need to remember today.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"Use what you have to help others.

"Let's pray and ask God to help us."

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

PRAY

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for this story that reminds us how amazing You are! We are so glad that **[Basic Truth]** we can trust You no matter what. Help us be like the boy in the story who was willing to give what he had to help others. Help us see how we can show compassion and meet the needs of the people around us. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: "Wow! I love to imagine what it would have been like for the boy in the story. When he showed up to see Jesus, there's no way he thought that he would be part of such a huge, important miracle. But when he offered his bread and fish, Jesus used it to feed THOUSANDS of people!

"You never know what God will do when you use what you have to help others.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"Let's say that together."

HOST AND KIDS: "Use what you have to help others."

HOST: "Great job!

"You might not think you have a lot of stuff that you can use to help people. But you've got two ears! That means you can listen when someone needs a friend. You've got two hands. That means you can help your mom or dad clean up around the house. And you've got a mouth. That means you can speak kind and encouraging words to make someone's day.

"Think about what you'd like someone to do for YOU . . . then do that for someone else! **Use what you have to help others.**

"Can you think of some cool ways to do that? (Pause for responses.) I bet you can! In fact, you can head to Small Group right now and talk about it with your friends. I'll see you next time!"

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP