



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

WHAT WE HAVE, WE SHARE



A YOUNG VINCENTIAN LENTEN CAMPAIGN



"And God can give you more blessings than you need. Then you will always have plenty of everything. You will have enough to give to every good work."

2 Corinthians 9:8 ICB

Jesus feeds the 5,000- A little generosity goes a long way.

Narrator 1: Many of you have heard of the story of how Jesus fed 5,000 people with just five loaves and two fish, but I'd like to tell you that story again through the eyes of a little child who was there that day, whose small offering to Jesus is at the heart of this story.

Narrator 2: It was a busy time of year as families were preparing for the Jewish Passover Feast. This is the celebration of the freedom of the Jews from slavery in ancient Egypt. Not far from Lake Galilee, a mother and child were busy preparing for the celebration when they suddenly saw a crowd of people heading towards the hill. There was excitement in the air as people hurried past, and the little child wanted to know what was going on.

Little child: Where's everyone going?

Passer-by: Jesus and his friends have just crossed the lake and are heading to the hill. We want to hear what he's going to say.

Narrator 1: The little child had heard about Jesus. He/She had never met him, but they knew that people had witnessed miracles he had performed to heal the sick. He/She wanted to find out more.

Little child: Mother, can I go to the hill to see Jesus and his followers?

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Mother: We'll go together. Go and fetch your bag and I will pack some food for us to take.

Narrator 2: So, the little child got ready while his mother packed their bag with some food to take to the hill.

Narrator 1: When the little child and his/her mother reached the hill they could see Jesus looking out at the crowd and by his side were two of his followers, Philip and Andrew.

Little child: Can I go closer, Mother?

Mother: Go on ahead but stay where I can see you.

Narrator 2: The little child weaved in and out of the crowd and suddenly found himself/herself just a few feet away from Jesus and his friends. Everyone was talking excitedly, but the little child was fixed on the conversation Jesus was having with one of his followers, Philip.

Jesus: Where can we buy bread for all these people to eat?

Philip: Someone would have to work almost a year to buy enough bread for each person here to have only a little piece.





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Narrator 1: As the little child heard Philip say the word 'bread', he remembered the bag his mother had packed. He opened it up to find the two fish and five little loaves.

Little child: Will they think I'm silly if I give them my little bag of five loaves and two fish? This will be no use at all, but Mother has always said: 'What we have, we share.'

Narrator 2: The little child wanted to help in some way, and although he/she felt nervous and unsure what they would think, his/her heart was telling him to have the courage to step forward and offer the food to Jesus. He/She managed to get the attention of another one of Jesus' followers, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

Little child: I have two fish and five loaves. It's not very much, but I would like Jesus to have it.

Narrator 1: Andrew led the little child closer to Jesus.

Andrew: Here is a boy/girl with five loaves of barley bread and two little fish. But that is not enough for so many people.

Narrator 1: The little child was saddened to hear Andrew's words, but as he/she looked up, Jesus smiled, kindly thanked him/her and that's when something amazing happened.





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Jesus: Please tell the people to sit down.

Narrator 2: There were about 5,000 people who sat down there on this grassy area. Jesus took the loaves of bread and the two fish, thanked God for them, and gave the food out to all those sitting on the hill. There was enough for everyone. When they finished, Jesus instructed his followers. Jesus: Gather the pieces of fish and bread that were not eaten. Don't waste anything.

Narrator 1: Even the leftovers filled 12 baskets, and everyone who had come to see Jesus was full and had witnessed a great miracle.

Little child: I can't believe what Jesus was able to do with my small gift of five loaves and two fish. He can do great things, however small the offering. It's a miracle.

Inspired by John 6, International Children's Bible, Bible Gateway.com

