

NURSERY AtHome - A Parent Resource

As the primary spiritual nurturer of your home, this resource is designed to inspire, equip, and support you as you share God's Word with your child.

God Statement: Jesus is Provider

Memory Verse: But take heart! I have overcome the world. John 16:33c

Jesus is Provider | Feeding the 5000

Matthew 14:13–21; Mark 6:30–44; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–15

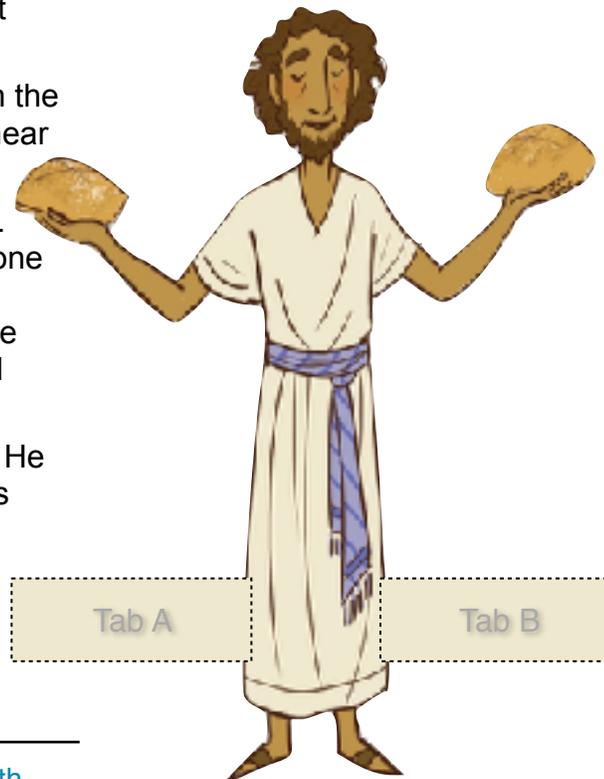
Jesus knew it was important to take time to rest. Jesus knew his disciples were tired and needed rest too. Jesus planned for them to take some time off. They were going to travel by boat to a quiet place.

Jesus and His disciples got in the boat. As they sailed along on the lake, people on land noticed Jesus. The people wanted to be near Jesus, so they followed the boat on foot along the shore.

Jesus saw the crowds of people. He cared for people so much. He went to shore to teach and heal them. It got late and everyone was getting hungry. Jesus told the disciples to feed all of the people. The disciples didn't know what to do. They only had five loaves of bread and two fish. This would not be enough to feed 5000 people!

Jesus cared for the hungry people. He had everyone sit down. He blessed the food, broke the bread into pieces and gave it to His disciples. Jesus told the disciples to give everyone some bread and fish. I wonder what happened? The Bible says that all the people ate and ate until their bellies were full. Everyone had enough to eat. There were even leftovers! Jesus is Provider!

For added Big God Story engagement, cut out the Jesus image. Tape Tabs A & B together to fit child's finger. Help your child re-tell the story while using the Jesus finger puppet.



Repetition is an important part of your child's development and growth. Enjoy re-reading the story and declaring Jesus is Provider throughout the day. Use the extra activities below to connect with God's Word this week.

PRAY

Read Mark 6:30-34. You may even find this story in a children's Bible. Have your child close his eyes as you read. Ask him what things stood out as you read—maybe it was the boat, the people following Jesus along the shore, or the bread and fish.

Talk about ways Jesus provides for your family. Spend some time thanking God for all of those ways.

EXPERIENCE

Jesus cared so much for the crowd following Him that He taught the people, healed them, and fed them. Jesus provides abundantly for us because He cares for us.

Ask your child, "Why did Jesus feed the crowd?" Allow him to think about his answer.

Discuss with your child some tangible ways you can show other people how much Jesus cares about them—using kind words, showing affection, etc.

BLESS

A blessing can be a spoken prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words of encouragement and guidance over your child. For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in *HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource* @ HomeFrontMag.com.

Child's name, may you know Jesus provides for you! May you recognize and be thankful for all of the ways Jesus cares for you.

God Statement :: Jesus is Provider

Memory Verse :: *I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. John 16:33*

APRIL | Week 4

Feeding the 5,000

Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15

One day, a large crowd gathered to hear Jesus teach. They listened to Jesus for many hours, and at the end, they were all very hungry. Since they only had five loaves of bread and two fish, the disciples didn't know what to do. So they asked Jesus, because they knew He cared about the people very much. Jesus did a miracle and used that small meal to feed thousands of people! There were even 12 baskets of leftover food. Jesus could do that miracle because He is God. And because He cared about the people, He provided more than enough to eat!

Discover

- Scripture tells us Jesus continued to teach the people and heal their sick until late in the day.
- After all the people were fed, the disciples collected the baskets of what was left over and found there were 12 baskets full of food!
- Five thousand men, plus women and children, were fed that evening.

Experience

Read this part of The Big God Story during dinnertime. As you sit down to eat, **read Mark 6:34–43**. When you're finished, talk with your children about the abundance they have, even right in front of them. Remind them how amazing it is that God has provided a meal for them to eat and a home to sleep in at night. Ask them to think of some of the other blessings God has provided for your family.

Follow

After reading through **Mark 6:34-43**, discuss these questions together:

- What are some ways Jesus Cares for your needs?
- When has God given us even more than we need?
- How can we show Jesus how thankful we are for what we've been given?

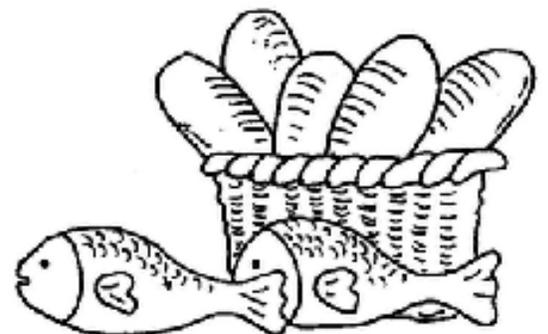
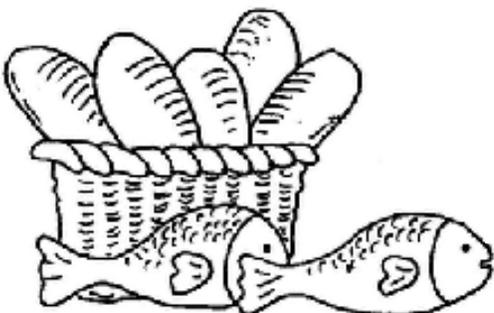
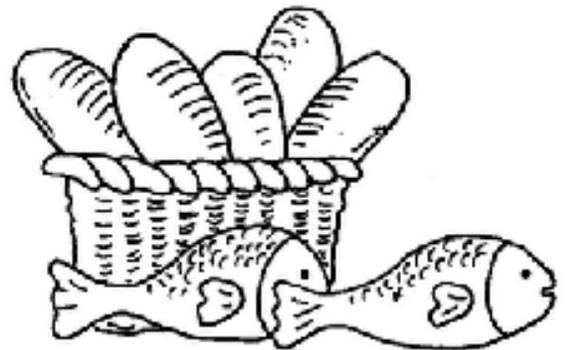
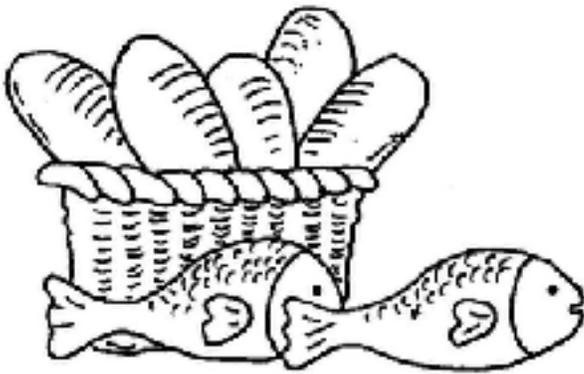
These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to have conversations about how Jesus is Provider in your everyday life.

Bless:

A blessing can be a spoken prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words of encouragement and guidance over your child. For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource @ HomeFrontMag.com.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's Name), **may you know that your Heavenly Father loves you. May you know that Jesus is Provider. Just how Jesus provided in today's part of The Big God Story, Jesus continues to provide for all your needs today. May you sit in His peace and ask for His provision in this time.**



Jesus is Provider

Color the scene of Jesus feeding the 5000. Not including the baskets Jesus is holding up, can you find five extra baskets of bread and fish? Circle them when you find them. How many baskets were leftover according to Matthew 14:13-21?

