

## Jesus Is Compassionate

### Feeding of the 5,000

#### PREPARE AHEAD

Gather some Bibles for you and your children or have a Bible app ready on your phones.

You can download the Storytelling Video and the Worship Music Files using the following link: <https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/lesson-dl.com/tru/TaH-Jesus-Is-Compassionate-Media.zip>

Print the Remember Verse cards in the Resources folder for your family to cut out and hang around your house.

Prepare the Storytelling Video and TruWorship songs to play for your family. Lyric sheets are available to help you sing along.

#### REMEMBER VERSE



*Use the Remember Verse Cards to help your family memorize this verse. You can also play the **Balloon Pop Game** in **Bonus Anytime Activities** to help memorize this verse.*

#### CONNECT AS A FAMILY

Set some food out to snack on as you gather around. Ask your kids to imagine if all the food on the table was multiplied by two, then by ten, then by one hundred! Read the account of Jesus feeding more than five thousand people in **John 6:1–15**. Explain that Jesus had compassion on the hungry crowd.



After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- **How would you have felt if you had been in the crowd that day?**
- **What does this miracle tell you about Jesus?**
- **How can you show compassion to other people?**

Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how Jesus Is Compassionate into your everyday life as a family.

## INVESTIGATE TOGETHER

Together, watch the Storytelling Video included this week.

After watching the video learn more about Jesus' compassion by diving back into Scripture.

If they are old enough, have your child read Matthew 14:12–21.

Then ask these questions:

- **Why did Jesus want to be alone?**
- **What happened when Jesus saw the crowd?**
- **How many people did Jesus feed with the fish and bread?**
- **Who are some people who have had compassion for you?**
- **Who are some people you can show compassion to?**

**Over and over again in the Bible, we hear about God's amazing love for us. He shows us compassion every day.**

Read Psalm 86:15 aloud.

- **When has God shown you compassion?**
- **What are some other wonderful things about God?**

**God shows us compassion, and He's patient with His people. Because of this, we can praise Him and thank Him.**

Read Isaiah 63:7 aloud.

- **What are some ways we can tell others about God's kindness?**
- **When was a time you praised God for the good things He's done for you?**



## WORSHIP

Play the videos for “Your Love” from *Your Love* and “Jesus By My Side” from *Songs from the Playhouse* and sing along as a family.

## BLESS

Before you end your time together, read the blessing from Lamentations 3:22–23:

**Because of the LORD’S great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.**

**May you know God’s great love and compassion never fails. May you know His great faithfulness to you.**

Then, pray the following blessing over your child:

(Child’s name), **may you find ways to share God’s love and compassion with others this week.**





**REMEMBER VERSE**

The LORD is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love.

Psalm 145:8



**Lessons 3.6-3.9**  
Reproducible for church use only.



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## BONUS ANYTIME ACTIVITIES

Here are some optional activities you could do with your family throughout the week to help remember and celebrate the promises of God from the **Jesus Is Compassionate** lesson.

Find the ones that look like they would work best from your family and try them out. You might just find a fun new way to build your faith together!

### PRAYERS OF COMPASSION

#### SUPPLIES

- Prayer needs list
- Index cards (1 per child)
- Pen
- Basket or bowl

#### PREPARE AHEAD

Reach out to your church and family friends to find out different needs that your family can pray for. Write a prayer need on each index card (omitting names) and place the cards in a basket or bowl.

#### RELATE

**Compassion is more than a feeling—it's an action. Throughout the New Testament there are many examples of how Jesus and His followers showed compassion to others. What are some examples you can think of? Pause for answers. Those are great thoughts.**

**In today's portion of The Big God Story, Jesus' compassion for the hurting and hungry crowd led Him to action. There are people in our own community who are hurting and having a hard time. In this time, let's spend a few minutes considering how we can help people around us. We can begin by praying for the people and asking God to show us what He has for us.**

Pass around the basket or bowl with various prayer requests in it, and have each person take one or two requests. Then, encourage your family to spend some time in prayer for the requests on the cards. Have each person continue to pray for the request on their card throughout the week.



## GAME: BALLOON POP

### SUPPLIES

- Balloons (uninflated, 6)
- Paper
- Scissors
- Pen

### PREPARE AHEAD

Cut a sheet of paper into six strips and write a different phrase of the Remember Verse on each strip of paper. Use the following phrases to break up the verse: The Lord/is gracious/and compassionate/slow to anger/and rich/in love. Then, place each phrase inside a different balloon. Blow up the balloons and tie them shut.

### REMEMBER VERSE

**The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. Psalm 145:8**

### RELATE

Review the Remember Verse with your class a few times. Then, invite the children to jump on the balloons. Once all of the balloons are popped, have the children work together to put the verse in order. When they're finished, invite the class to say it together.



## LOAVES HOT POTATO

### SUPPLIES

- 1 Basket
- Brown paper lunch bags (6–10)
- Newspapers (to stuff lunch bags)
- Upbeat music

(suggestion: **Your Love:**

[https://disciplr.vids.io/videos/489ddcb71817e2cdc0/your-love\\_your-love\\_truworship](https://disciplr.vids.io/videos/489ddcb71817e2cdc0/your-love_your-love_truworship))

### PREPARE AHEAD

Stuff an even number of lunch bags with newspapers so the bags look like loaves of bread. Put half of the loaves in one basket and half in the other basket.

### RELATE

**When the disciples looked for food to feed the large crowd, all they could find were five small loaves of bread and two fish. Jesus had compassion on His followers and performed a miracle so that the small amount of food became more food than all of the people could eat.**

Today, invite your kids to play a game where they'll get the chance to pass around baskets of loaves. To play, invite your family to sit together in a circle. Give a basket to a child. Then, begin the music and have everyone pass the basket to the people on their right. As the music plays, continue to pass the basket—without letting any of the loaves fall out! When the music stops, the person holding the basket will be out. Continue until one person remains.



## CANNED FOOD ROLLING CONTEST

### SUPPLIES

- Four cans of food
- Masking or painter's tape or cones

### SET UP

Use tape or cones to mark a start line and a finish line, each about 10 feet long. The distance between the two lines should be approximately 10 yards.

### RELATE

**Jesus went off so He could be alone, but thousands of people followed Him. They wanted to be near Him wherever He went! They stayed all day to listen to Jesus, and they became very hungry.** Read Matthew 14:15 aloud. **What did the disciples want the people to do for food? Pause for answers. Right. They wanted them to leave and go find their own food. But Jesus had compassion on the people and said the disciples should feed them. There were 5,000 people to feed, but they only had five loaves of bread and two small fish.**

Read Matthew 14:19. **What did Jesus do? Pause for responses. Jesus prayed and thanked God for the food. Then the disciples passed it out. Jesus did a miracle and made enough food for everyone! in fact, there was so much food that the leftovers filled 12 baskets!**

Today, invite your family to participate in a competition involving food— but instead of eating it, they'll be playing with it! To play, have each person stand on the start line with a can of food. When the leader says, "Go," each person will roll their can of food to the finish line. The first pair to successfully make it across the finish line wins.

Play again allowing family members to choose other household items to race with.





## PASS THE BREAD

### SUPPLIES

- Ball
- Upbeat music

### RELATE

Invite children to join you in an open area and sit down in a circle. **When Jesus saw that the people were hungry and needed food, He gave food to the disciples to pass out to the crowd. I'll bet passing out all that food was a big job! Hold up ball. We're going to pretend this ball is a loaf of bread. I will turn on the music, and you're going to pass the "bread" around the circle. The person holding the bread when the music stops will need to stand up and say, "God is Provider!"**

Hand the ball to a child and start the music. Stop the music at intervals, inviting the children left holding the ball each time to stand and say, "God is Provider!" Encourage children to try to pass the ball as fast as they can and keep track of how many times they get it around the circle before you stop the music.



## LET'S MAKE MUSIC TOGETHER

### SUPPLIES

- Basket (large, with handle)
- Ribbon (2" wide; 10" per child) or strips of paper
- Scissors
- Markers (1 per child)
- Instruments (1 per child; suggestions: pots, buckets, shakers, toy instruments)
- Optional: worship music (suggestion: I Can Sing: [https://disciplr.vids.io/videos/489ddcb71817e8c7c0/i-can-sing\\_sincerely-yours\\_truworship](https://disciplr.vids.io/videos/489ddcb71817e8c7c0/i-can-sing_sincerely-yours_truworship))

### PREPARE AHEAD

Cut ribbon into 10-inch lengths, enough for one for each child. Set instruments inside the basket.

### RELATE

Invite your family to join you in an open area. **When the people were sick, Jesus healed them, and when the people were hungry, Jesus fed them. When I look around and see all God has given us, it makes me want to worship Him. What are some things God has given to you?** Talk about ideas with kids, and then invite them to join you around the basket. Ask each child to tell you one thing that God has given her and write or draw it on her ribbon. Invite children to tie their ribbons around the basket's handle (some children may need help with tying). After each child has responded and tied a ribbon, invite everyone to take an instrument out of the basket.

**Now let's worship God with music.** Demonstrate a beat and encourage children to follow that beat with their instruments. Then choose a child to make her own beat and have everyone follow it. Walk in a line as you make music together. Or, if you choose, play some worship music and invite children to move around and dance.



## MY CUP IS RUNNING OVER

### SUPPLIES

- Tarp
- Towels (4)
- Buckets (4)
- Water
- Permanent marker
- Disposable cups (2, large)

### PREPARE AHEAD

Fill two buckets with water. Draw a line three quarters of the way up the inside of the two empty buckets.

### SET UP

Lay the tarp on the ground. Set up two relay stations by laying two towels on one end of the tarp and placing the other two towels on the other end of the tarp. Put the buckets filled with water on one set of towels and the empty buckets on the others. Place a disposable cup next to each of the buckets filled with water.

### RELATE

Invite children to join you in an open area and divide the group into two equal teams.

**When Jesus saw that thousands of people were very hungry, He didn't just give them each a bite of food. He filled up their bellies with as much bread and fish as they could eat. God is Provider, and sometimes He gives us more than enough. We're going to play a game where we have more than enough water.**

Explain to children that they're going to race to fill up their empty bucket with water. Give a cup to each child. When the game begins, each child will fill their cup with water, walk across the tarp, and pour the water into the empty bucket. That child will then walk back for more water. The child that fills up their bucket past the line will win.

When the race is finished, talk about the line on the bucket and if the water was over that line. You can even continue to fill the bucket up to the very top and let it overflow a little. **God didn't give the people a little bit of food or even just enough. God gave the people more than they needed. He gave them so much that they couldn't even eat it all!**



# JESUS



ACTION WORD  
**SAVE**  
THE ACTION BIBLE™





## JESUS

### **JESUS:**

Do you know me? My name is Jesus. I was born in a town called Bethlehem. My heavenly Father sent me to save the world. I was raised by my earthly parents, Mary and Joseph, and when I grew to be a man, I began the work my Father God sent me to do. I traveled from place to place, healing people who were sick and giving sight to people who were blind. I calmed a storm to show God's power. I brought dead people back to life, to show that God could conquer even death. I did all these miracles, these special signs, to help people understand how much God loves them. But not everyone understood; many people hated me. The world then is the same as the world now—filled with people who do wrong things. But that's why I came. That's why God sent me, His only Son, to earth. I came to **SAVE** the world—I came for everyone! And that's the message I kept telling people, as I traveled from place to place, until my death on the cross, and even afterward, when I rose from the dead. When you place your trust in me and confess your sins, you will receive eternal life. My message stays the same even now—God loves you. And Jesus **SAVES!**

You're part of this story too. God wants *you* to take action and follow me, because I **SAVE**.

### **ACTION VERSE:**

John 3:16

**What was God's action? Name a time when someone **SAVED** you from danger. Tell about a time when your family rescued an animal—or a person. Why do we all need Jesus to **SAVE** us?**

THE **ACTION BIBLE**



**LEARN MORE**

For the salvation part of Jesus' story in *The Action Bible*, go to "**CRUCIFIED!**"

BOY WITH LUNCH



ACTION WORD  
**SHARE**

THE ACTION BIBLE™



## BOY WITH LUNCH

### BOY WITH LUNCH:

Hi! I've got some extra food here in my bag. Do you want some? One time, when I shared my lunch, something incredible happened. I'd been out in the countryside listening to Jesus teach. He's the best teacher ever. We were all so interested in what Jesus was saying that before we knew it, the whole day had gone by. We'd been out there for hours, and we were getting hungry. Jesus told His disciples to feed everyone, but there were thousands of us and I could tell they didn't have enough food. So I said I would SHARE what I had. I'll never forget the look in Jesus' eyes when He took my lunch. He prayed to God and the disciples started handing out my bread and fish. Then something strange happened; Jesus kept handing out pieces—so did His disciples. More and more. But how? I realized He performed a miracle! Jesus taught us how to really SHARE that day. Now I enjoy telling about that day to everyone I can. I've realized that no matter how little I have, even the act of SHARING with someone is more than enough to satisfy. And there will be leftovers too!

You're part of this story too. God wants *you* to SHARE His love with others.

### ACTION VERSE:

John 6:35

**What was God's action? Why is it sometimes hard to SHARE with others? Name something your family has given away. How can your family SHARE what God has done for you?**

THE ACTION BIBLE™



LEARN MORE

For the beginning of the Boy with Lunch story in *The Action Bible*, go to "HUNGRY CROWD."





Jesus and his followers traveled north again and crossed to the far side of Lake Galilee. They climbed up the mountainside and sat down. Then Jesus looked up and saw thousands of people coming toward them.

Jesus knew the people would be tired and hungry by the time they got to him.

“What will we feed all these people?” he asked. Jesus already knew what he was going to do, but he wanted to see how well his disciples had learned.

The disciples were stumped. All except Andrew. Andrew brought a little boy to Jesus and said, “This boy has a lunch with five small loaves and two fish.”





Jesus' smile warmed the boy's heart.

He took the lunch and said, "Have the people sit down."

Then Jesus took the bread, gave thanks for it, and started giving it out to the people who were sitting on the grass. He did the same with the fish.

When everyone was full, the disciples gathered the leftovers. There were twelve baskets brimming with leftover fish and bread!

The people were so amazed and thankful that they wanted to make Jesus their King. But Jesus knew God had a different plan, so he climbed the mountain to be by himself.



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Thank You