

NO ORDINARY MAN

Timeless Truth: Jesus' teachings have earthly benefits and heavenly rewards.

Bible Basis: Mark 4:30–34; Luke 15:1–7, 10:25–37; Matthew 5:3–12, 6:5–15; Mark 4:35–41; 6:30–44; Matthew 14:22–32; John 6:66–71

Key Verse: We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God. —John 6:69

Resource: *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 24

PARENT TIPS

Read the key point from the Sunday school lessons that relate to your children. Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table during the week. The Living Faith activity encourages your family to plan a picnic, whether you eat outdoors or inside. The Extra Mile takes your family to a Web site where you can watch a modern twist on Jesus' parables.

GET THE POINT

Jesus teaches his friends and the crowds. I can learn from God.

TABLE TALK

- Historians agree, even those who aren't Christians, that Jesus was a great teacher. Some of his most famous teachings came at the Sermon on the Mount where he made a bunch of "Blessed are..." statements. Discuss some of them:
 - For many, meekness equals weakness, but Jesus says the meek are blessed and will "inherit the earth." How? What does meek really mean?
 - Blessed are the merciful. How can you show mercy?
 - What are some ways you can protect your heart, so you will be "pure in heart"?
 - How can you be a peacemaker?
 - Jesus says you're blessed when people insult you, persecute you, and say evil things about you because of your relationship with Jesus. Has this ever happened to you?
- On several occasions Jesus raised people from the dead. In this chapter he raised Jairus' daughter. Talk about Jesus' power over death. Do you think this was Jesus' most amazing miracle? If not, which miracle most amazes you?

LIVING FAITH

Jesus feeding the 5,000 is the only miracle retold in all four gospels. When a young boy's lunch was multiplied to feed a multitude, it showed God's power and taught a powerful lesson about his provision. This week bring your family together for a picnic to remember Jesus' huge impromptu picnic. Have family members choose their favorite foods to include or make a meal that's reminiscent of what happened on that mountainside. Maybe you can buy packages of flavored tuna and a loaf of French bread. Juice boxes or bottles of water work well, because they don't spill as easily. If it's warm enough, eat outside at a park or in your backyard. If the weather's cold, move your picnic indoors. Lay out a blanket in the living room and talk about Jesus' miracle.

- **Did you know Jesus actually fed way more than 5,000 people? Back then only the men were counted. When you include women and children that number may double. Does that make this miracle more impressive? Why?**
- **Do you find it interesting that there were 12 baskets of leftover food? Why didn't Jesus make just enough food for everybody?**
- **What do you think the little boy thought when he gave up his lunch? Do you think he had any idea that Jesus was going to use it to feed everybody?**
- **What does this miracle teach you about God's power?**

EXTRA MILE

Jesus used stories in about one-third of all of his teachings. That means one out of every three times that Jesus taught he used a parable.

Why do you think Jesus used stories so often?

Stories are still a powerful and meaningful way to explain God's truth. But today a lot of stories are told in movies. Watch one of Jesus' parables told in a modern way at: <http://modernparable.com>. You can also search for "Modern Parables" and click on the link.

When you get to the Web site, click on "Try a Lesson" and watch a modern twist on Jesus' parable of the hidden treasure found in Matthew 13:44. After watching the short film, click on "Go to Lesson 2: Living the Parable" where you'll hear a current application of the parable. In all, the two videos last less than 20 minutes.