DAY 3: I HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE—LESSON SCRIPT

Opening
Hello! I’m [your name]. It’s so good to see you again.

Review any procedures or introductions needed. Ex.: bathroom procedures, raise your hand if you need help or have something to say, etc.

Yesterday, we learned that “I Have Something to Shout About!” This morning we met Kay who reminded us that “I Have Something to Share!” Some of us might enjoy making treats for friends like Kay. Others might have knowledge they can share, like when you help a friend with their homework. Even when we don’t have much or any “stuff,” we still have something we can contribute! Today, we’re going to be like Kay and say, “I Have Something to Share.” Can you say it with me?

Campers in unison: “I Have Something to Share!”

Yesterday, we met Bartimaeus, who helped us practice asking for what we need. Today we’re going to hear from a friend. They’re going to tell us about a time when they shared some food with a whole bunch of people.

K-1

Before we meet our new friend, let’s get some energy out and share something about ourselves! Let’s all stand up and spread out just a little and shake out our bodies. Make sure you are careful not to hit a neighbor.

Now I want you to think of something you are really good at. Do you have something in mind? I want you to act it out silently with your body for five seconds. Five. Four. Three. Two. One.

We’re all good at so many things! Do we have any volunteers who want to act out their talent? We’ll have five seconds to guess what talent you are sharing with us!

Allow volunteers to share as time allows.

2-5

We’re going to start today with a short journaling activity to help us think about the things that we have to share.

Each of us has special gifts and talents inside us that you don’t know just from looking at us. You might be great at sports or play the piano. Maybe you know a lot about dinosaurs or maybe you tell funny jokes.

Our gifts are the things we enjoy and the things that make us proud. We’re going to take three minutes to write about or draw about the gifts we have to share.

Set a timer while Campers journal. After three minutes, ask if any students would like to tell us one of their gifts.
We have a new friend here today that has something to share! Let’s all sit down and get ready to listen!

Hello, Friend!

Hello, friends! It’s so nice to meet you.

Optional: Ask campers to welcome today’s friend by saying or singing “Hello Friend.”

Hi! Wow! Look at all of you! Thank you for having me here.

Friend! It’s nice to meet you too! Our friend has a story to share with us that’s all about having gifts to share.

Remember, we can show that we’re ready to listen by finding a comfortable listening place to help our bodies use our eyes and ears.

Suggested instructions for story mats or squares:

Your body is currently on a mat on the floor. During this story, we’re going to listen with our bodies inside the space of the mat. Can you put your fingers at the edge of your mat? Right there! Yes! Can you put your feet on the edge of the mat! Yes! Just like that! Find your comfortable spot in those edges!

Storyteller: Hi! I’m so glad that I’m here. I’m going to tell you a story about a time when I was a kid, when I was hungry and so many other people were hungry too. I had something to share, but I was afraid to do it.

Once upon a time, I got to go to listen to Jesus speak. There were thousands of us who were going to go hear Jesus that day. We had heard that he listened and asked good questions.

We heard that he helped people feel better when they were sick or sad or scared. We heard he told THE BEST stories! We listened to him for hours and hours. We learned so much! We were so happy!

Let’s put aside our journaling and get ready for our storyteller for today.

Today we’re going to hear about one of the miracles that Jesus performed and meet someone who was able to create a big change by sharing from the little bit that they had.

Let’s welcome our storyteller with a little applause.

We’re going to practice something called “active listening” while our storyteller shares his story. That means our mouths are closed, our eyes are on the speaker, and we’re focusing our attention on what they are saying so we can make sure we really hear them.

Storyteller: Hi everyone! I’m so glad to be here! Today I’m going to tell you the story about the time that I went to see Jesus and got to be part of a miracle!

Jesus was travelling all around Galilee. News of it was spreading everywhere. Everyone was talking about it. I was so curious about this man who was doing amazing things. I heard that big crowds of people were following him as he traveled.

One day, I heard that Jesus was here! Everyone was running out to hear him speak at the top of a hill. I went out with the others, and we listened for hours. We listened for so long that we got hungry.

We hadn’t exactly planned on spending the whole afternoon listening to Jesus. Many of us went to listen to him without bringing much along with us at all. Now this huge crowd of people was starting to get hungry.

Now, I don’t know about you, but I’m not always my best self when I’m hungry.
And then, it started. Somewhere in the crowd, one tummy started grumbling. Then another, then another.

Pretty soon, everybody was hungry.

Have you ever been hungry?

Allow time for Campers to answer.

Yeah? Me too! Where do you feel hungry?

Allow time for Campers to answer.

I feel hungry in my tummy and sometimes in my head, because it starts to hurt. Do you get grumpy when you’re hungry?

Allow time for Campers to answer.

Me too! And so did everybody else there! They were all grumbling and forgetting all the things that Jesus had taught them about listening to other people, speaking up for other people, and sharing what they had.

I had some food that I had packed away in my sack. But I was watching all the grown-ups around me. Some said that they were sad because they were hungry, but they didn’t have any food at home.

Some people had bread peeking out of a bag, but lied and said that they didn’t have anything to eat.

I looked to my left and I looked to my right, and I didn’t see another person with food.

Can you look to your left and see if your friend on your left has food? No! How about to your right? Do you have food? No? It was just like that, but SO MANY more people, all grumpy. Can you make a grumpy face?

Allow time for Campers to make grumpy faces.

Do any of you get cranky or upset when you are hungry?

Allow time for Campers to answer.

I had some food that I had brought with me, but I was watching all of the adults around me, waiting for someone to do something. I knew I couldn’t be the only person who had brought something with me.

I knew I had to do something, so I walked up to the disciples and told them that I had five loaves of bread and two fishes that I wanted to share with some of the hungry people listening to Jesus.

“Come with me,” said my friend Andrew, and brought me to Jesus and showed him what I had to share. Jesus smiled at my small loaves and my fishes. He asked for everyone to sit down, just like you are all sitting, and then he said, “Thank you!”

And then he said thank you to God for it. He broke the bread open, and he started to pass the pieces down one by one.

And then people ate! God provided for way, way more people than anyone could have expected would be fed by five loaves and two fishes.

It was a miracle of abundance—there was more than enough for everyone. I tried to be generous, to give the little that I had, and Jesus turned it into something amazing!

Garden Guide: Thank you for sharing your story with us! Can we give our storyteller a round of applause?

Allow a moment of applause.

Can someone quickly tell me what this story was about in their own words?

Allow Campers to respond.
EEK. Yes. You are all very grumpy right now.

But I knew that I had my food. Jesus said a lot, but I remember he said we all have something to give. I knew I couldn’t be the only person who had brought something with me.

I was worried that all of these hungry people would start to get upset soon. I was worried that they’d get so hungry that they’d forget the message that Jesus taught about caring for one another.

I thought about the food in my bag. I couldn’t imagine how it might feed thousands of people, but I knew that I could feed more than just myself.

So, I walked up to Jesus’s friends (called the disciples) and I opened my bag. I pulled out my five loaves of bread and two fishes and I handed it to them. “Could Jesus share this with people?” I asked and I watched them as they took it to him. I was so happy to know that I could help!

“Come with me,” Andrew said, and brought me to Jesus and showed him what I had to share. Jesus smiled at my small loaves and my fishes. He asked for everyone to sit down, just like you are all sitting, and then he said, “Thank you!”

And then he said thank you to God for it. He broke the bread open, and he started to pass the pieces down one by one.

Everyone had enough to eat! I noticed some of the other bags that had food were empty as they ate and those that didn’t have food before now had food to eat. Everybody was so full AND there was food left over.

I helped Jesus with a miracle because I knew I had something to share!

Thank you, Friend! What an important story! Every time someone joins us in the classroom, we get to ask them questions.

Discussion

- If you were someone who had left everything behind to follow Jesus, how would you have felt if you heard there were only five loaves and two fishes to feed 5,000 people?
- Why do you think that Jesus performed this miracle to feed 5,000 people? Why not just send them away to find their own food?
- How would this story have been different if the kid chose to keep his lunch to himself instead of telling Jesus about it?
• Of COURSE! I have something to share!

• What feeling did you have when Jesus looked and saw your loaves?

• Have you shared anything before, like toys or food with your siblings? Why? Friend, do you have any questions for our friends here?

   *Allow Campers time to answer each question.*

• What is something special about you?

• Can you think of a time when you’ve shared something before?

Let’s say thank you to our new friend!

*Campers may say thank you, applaud, or sing a thank you song to show appreciation.*

Goodbye Friend!
**Activity: Clay Loaves and Fishes**

*Sensory Note: Some Campers might not like the feel of playdough. This activity can be done with paper and age-appropriate scissors.*

- Each Camper receives a small amount of Play-Doh or similar kids’ clay.
- Instruct Campers to create two fish and five loaves using the small amount of supplies they have.
- Instruct Campers to use plastic knives to cut their bread and fish into as many pieces as possible.
- Count and see who was able to divide the fish and loaves into the most pieces.
- Instruct Campers to combine their playdough and see how many loaves and fishes they can make together.

**Discussion**

- What changed after we combined all the materials to make the loaves and fish?
- How can life be kind of like this activity? How can things become easier when you contribute a smaller part to something bigger?
- How do you think you could contribute to something generous with what you have or are able to do in your own life?

**Bonus Game: Water Relay**

The end goal of this activity is to move the water from one bucket to the other without carrying the bucket or walking the water to the other one. Campers cannot walk when they have water in their container, but the water must get to the other side. Only start with an amount of water that makes sense to move in a relatively short amount of time instead of a large amount that would take a significant amount of time.

- Have one large bucket of water on one side of the room and place an empty bucket (that can hold the same volume of water) on the other.
- Have each participant take a container and tell them that their goal is to move the water from one side of the room to the other without walking the bucket to the other side.
- Instruct the participants to use their containers to help one another move the water.
- If someone has water in their container, they cannot walk with it.
- The goal is that people will form a line to keep pouring it to the next person and then into the bucket. People can walk after they’ve poured the water to the next person and go to the end of the line to help continue the line.

*Sensory Note: Campers who would like to avoid touching water or getting wet can serve as the timer for the activity.*

**Discussion**

How did it feel to share your water with your neighbor to help get the water across? What are ways we share with each other when we work together?
(Optional) Discussion: Abundance and Scarcity
Suggested for Grades 4-5

Some people think that the miracle in this story is that Jesus made more fish and bread appear out of nowhere. Other people think that the crowd saw one boy bring what he had to Jesus, and it inspired them to start sharing what they had brought also. Either way, where it once seemed like there was not enough food for everyone, it turned out there was more than enough.

There are lots of times in our world where we don't get to see abundance like the abundance we hear about in the Bible. Sometimes people take everything they can and don't leave enough for others. Sometimes people feel like they won't have enough if they share with others. A good example of this was the rush to buy toilet paper when the COVID pandemic first started. We all knew we would need toilet paper. Some people took what they needed, while others took as much as they could bet their hands on.

Discussion
• What does it feel like when we don't have enough?
• What does it feel like when we have more than enough?
• What things do we have enough of to share with others? What extra things can we share? Why should we share our things?
• What are the ways our churches or communities can help those who don't have enough?

Closing
Today we heard a miraculous story of how Jesus turned one child's lunch into another 5,000 lunches for those who followed him. We might not always be able to contribute so much that we feed 5,000 people, but we can always step up and participate in acts of kindness that might have a much bigger impact than we might first think.

Offer the prayer below, or one of your choosing:

God, help us to know what we have to share, and give us the courage to speak up, so we can inspire others to share what they have, too. Amen.