



Jesus and his friends got into a boat and went across the sea. (*Set the paper “boat” on the blue lake on the Storytelling Mat. Place four beans on the boat. Slide the boat to the green area and move the four beans onto the green area.*) A great crowd met them on the other side. (*Lay a large handful of beans on the green area, a short distance from the four beans.*) The people wanted to be close to Jesus and hear his words. So Jesus taught them many things.

Late in the day the disciples said, “Send the people away so they can buy food to eat.”

But Jesus said, “You give them something to eat.”

“There are so many people!” the disciples said. (*Point to the large pile of beans.*) “How could we buy that much bread? We don’t have enough money.”

Jesus said, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” The disciples found five loaves of bread (*count out five popcorn kernels into your hand*) and two fish. (*Count out two kernels into your hand.*)

Jesus told the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. (*Divide the large pile of beans into several smaller piles.*) Jesus took the five loaves and two fish. (*Point to kernels in your hand.*) He looked up to heaven, blessed the loaves, and broke them. He gave the loaves and fish to the disciples to give to the people. (*Place kernels from your hand next to the piles.*)

Everyone ate and was filled! (*Place additional kernels next to each pile of beans.*) They even gathered 12 baskets full of extra bread and fish. (*Count out 12 kernels.*)

- (*Point to the large pile of beans.*) I wonder how the disciples felt when they saw the big crowd.
- I wonder what Jesus taught the people.
- (*Place seven kernels in your palm.*) I wonder how five loaves and two fish became enough to feed such a big crowd.
- (*Place five more kernels in your palm.*) I wonder what they did with the 12 baskets of extra food.