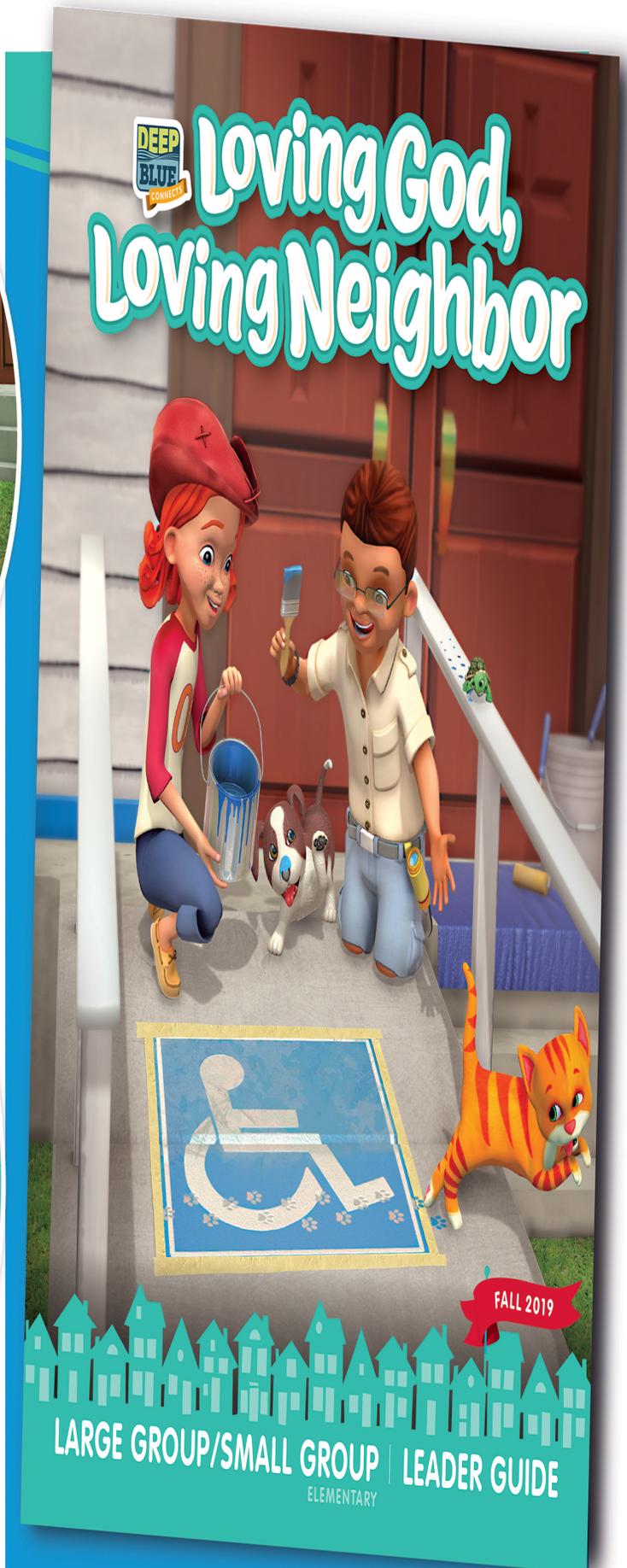


CD-ROM Installation

Windows® operating systems:
Insert the disc into your CD-ROM drive. The disc should launch automatically. If it does not, select "Computer" from the "Start" menu. Then right click on your CD-ROM drive. Select "Open" from the drop-down menu. Open the individual files.

Mac OS® operating systems:
Insert the disc into your CD-ROM drive. When the "Deep Blue" icon appears on your desktop, double-click on it to launch the main menu. Then click on the desired folder and open the individual files.



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Written by Sally Hoelscher

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The dates listed above are suggestions. Please adjust this schedule to fit your church's needs.

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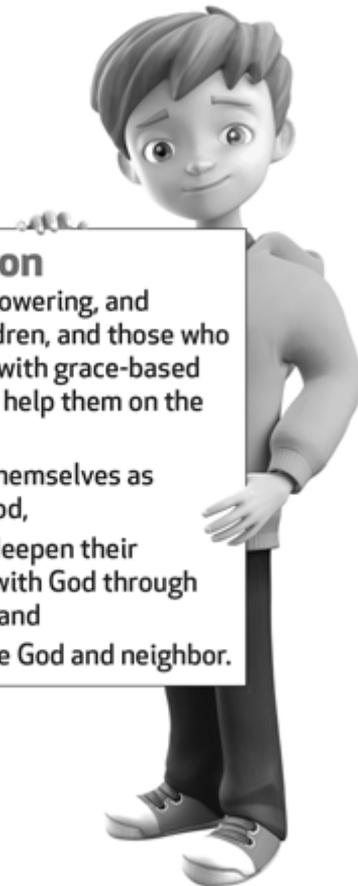
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www.deepbluekids.com/surveys



Download the Deep Blue App today! It's free!



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5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

The community of believers was one in heart and mind. (Acts 4:32)



PLAN

Supplies

Deep Blue Resources: Large Group
Small Group Kit: CD-ROM | Leader Guide |
Adventure DVD

Additional Deep Blue Resources:

CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible | Deep Blue
Bible Storybook | Deep Blue Kids Bible
Dictionary

Basic Supplies: CD player | DVD
player | Television or projector and
screen | Offering basket | Computer
and printer | Pencils | Scissors |
Gluesticks | Mural paper | Wet wipes |
Construction paper

Gather: Washable ink pads |
Beanbags | Bell

Explore: World map or globe

Respond: No additional supplies

Before You Teach

The story of the feeding of the multitudes is the only one of Jesus' miracles recorded in all four Gospels. In the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, this story is even recorded twice. In John's record of this event, the miraculous feeding began with a young boy's lunch of five loaves of bread and two fish. The feeding of the thousands—five thousand men, plus women and children—is told as a demonstration of Jesus' ability to perform miracles. But it is also the story of a young boy sharing what he had. Jesus used the boy's gift to provide for many. Jesus knew that people of all ages have gifts to contribute, and every gift is valuable.

We are not specifically told that the young boy shared his lunch cheerfully, but it appears to have been given willingly. The disciples were overwhelmed by the thought of how much food it would take to feed all the people who had been listening to Jesus teach. They told Jesus it would take more than half a year's salary to buy enough food for the crowd. The disciples were ready to dismiss the gift of five loaves and two fish because it was not enough. How often are we reluctant to give because our gift isn't enough to make a difference? Have we ever rejected the gift of another because it didn't seem like much? Jesus demonstrated that in God's hands, what seemed like not enough was more than enough. The feeding of the five thousand was an abundance miracle. Starting with just five loaves of bread and two fish, thousands of people were fed, everyone ate their fill, and twelve baskets of food were left over.

This is the last week of the special mission offering for The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre. Just as Jesus fed many with a little boy's lunch, God can accomplish great things with our offerings.

You can donate money using the Global Ministries Advance #14238A. Visit www.umcmmission.org/give-to-mission/search-for-projects/projects/14238a for more information.

5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

The community of believers was one in heart and mind. (Acts 4:32)



GATHER

Note

The following activities are planned to introduce today's theme. Depending on your setting, you may set up the gathering activities as centers and let the children choose, OR you may select one or more of the activities for all the children to participate in. You may also choose to use one or more of the activities during the Small Group Time at the end of the lesson.

Greeting

- Play the theme song, "All Are Welcome" (CD-ROM), as you welcome each child.
- Show the children where to place their offerings.

SAY: Today our Bible story is about Jesus feeding a lot of people.

Five Thousand (Cooperative Activity)

Before class: Cut a large piece of mural paper and spread it out on a table or on the floor.

SAY: In today's Bible story, we will hear about a time Jesus fed five thousand people.

ASK: Are there five thousand of us here today?

- Have the children count themselves.

SAY: We are going to illustrate how many five thousand is by making five thousand fingerprints.

- Encourage the children to figure out how many fingerprints they will each need to make in order to make five thousand fingerprints. Divide five thousand by the number of children.
 - Have each child press one finger gently on an ink pad and then make a fingerprint on the mural paper. Encourage each child to repeat the process to make the needed number of fingerprints.
 - Let the children use wet wipes to clean their fingers.
 - Display the mural paper in the story area.
-

Theater Group (Rehearsal for Large Group Activity)

Before class: Photocopy "Children Contribute" (Leader Guide—p. 54) for each child.

SAY: During our Large Group Time, you are going to share the story with the class by showing them scenes to go along with the story. You will need to come up with a scene for each part of the story. As the story is narrated, you will get into position and then freeze because pictures don't move! When it's time for the next scene, the narrator will say, "Next photo, please."

- Give each child a copy of "Children Contribute."
- Have the children create a scene for each paragraph of the story. Offer assistance as needed.
- Have the children practice acting out the scenes as you read the story.

5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

The community of believers was one in heart and mind. (Acts 4:32)



GATHER

Giving Game (Movement Activity)

Before class: Identify a large open area to play the game.

- Have the children spread out across the area and sit down.

SAY: We are going to play a giving game. I am going to give seven of you each a beanbag. The object of the game is to give the beanbags away. When you are given a beanbag, stand up and go give your beanbag to someone else. When you give someone else the beanbag, sit back down right where you are until you are given a beanbag again.

- Distribute the beanbags and encourage the children to play the game.

SAY: In today's Bible story, we will hear about a young boy giving something to Jesus.

TIP: *You may wish to use more or fewer beanbags depending on the size of your class.*

OR

Musical Remembering (Review Activity)

Before class: Set up a circle of chairs facing to the outside of the circle, using one less chair than the number of children playing. Set up a CD player to play upbeat music.

- Have the children form a circle around the chairs.

SAY: At the beginning of this month, we heard a story from Paul talking about parts of the body and how everyone is important. We have also heard stories about Jesus talking to a woman at the well, Jesus healing Bartimaeus, and Jesus eating with Zacchaeus. Let's review the stories we've heard this month.

- Start playing music and have the children walk around the circle. Stop the music and have the children find seats.
- Invite the child who is left standing to share something she or he remembers about the stories heard so far this month.
- Continue playing the game, removing an additional chair each round. Challenge the children to share things that have not been previously shared.

Transition to Explore—Sacred Conversations

- Ring a bell to indicate to the children that it is Large Group Time, and have the children move to the large group area.

ASK: How does it make you feel when you help someone?

5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

The community of believers was one in heart and mind. (Acts 4:32)



EXPLORE

See the Bible Story

- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure for Session 5 (Adventure DVD) with the children.

ASK: What can you do for your community?

Hear the Bible Story

SAY: Today's Bible story is one that appears in all four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. We are going to read the story from the Gospel of John.

- Read the children John 6:1-15 from the *CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible*.
-

Interact with the Bible Story

Before class: Photocopy "Children Contribute" (Leader Guide—p. 54) for each child. Display the mural of five thousand fingerprints made earlier in the story area.

SAY: Some of you have prepared scenes to go along with today's story.

- Invite the children who prepared the scenes to come forward.
- Read the story from "Children Contribute," pausing where indicated to let the children reset the scene.

ASK: How many people were fed that day? (*five thousand*)

- Point out the poster of five thousand fingerprints.

ASK: Why do you think the boy was willing to share his lunch? (*The Bible doesn't tell us. Maybe he saw that others were hungry and wanted to share what he had.*) How do you think the boy felt when he saw how his lunch fed all of those people?

SAY: Jesus accepted the young boy's gift of two fish and five loaves of bread, and used it to do something amazing. Jesus cared about making sure people were fed. He also taught us that even a little gift can make a big difference. Jesus knew that people of all ages can make valuable contributions.

Review the Bible Verse

- Show the Bible verse (Graphic 1a—CD-ROM).
- Encourage the children to read the verse together with you.
- Show the children the signs for the Bible verse from American Sign Language (Graphic 1b—CD-ROM).

TIP: Look on the Deep Blue Kids website under the Free Stuff tab to see a video with the signs demonstrated.

- Invite the children to sign and say the Bible verse with you several times.

5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

The community of believers was one in heart and mind. (Acts 4:32)



EXPLORE

Praising Time

- Play the song, “All People Are God’s People” (CD-ROM). Let the children dance as the music plays.

SAY: Today we heard the story of Jesus using a young boy’s lunch to feed over five thousand people. Jesus did not tell the boy he was too young to help. No matter how old we are, we can make contributions that are helpful. If you are five years old, please stand up.

- Continue naming ages and inviting children to stand until all the children are standing.

SAY: Let me hear you say, “I can make a difference!”

- Encourage the children to respond.

PRAY: God, thank you for Jesus, who reminds us that people of all ages are important. Help us find ways to contribute to our community and share your love with others. Amen.

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

Before class: Determine how much offering has been collected so you can share the amount with the children.

SAY: This month we have been collecting a special mission offering to help support the ministry of The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre.

- Encourage the children to find Jerusalem on the world map or globe.
- Invite the children to share what they remember about the ministry of the Centre.

SAY: The money we have collected will help The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre do its good work of helping children with disabilities.

- Let the children know how much money you have collected.

SAY: We are going to bless the offerings we have collected this month as we also say a blessing for The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre.

- Hold the offering and invite them to extend their hands toward the offering while you pray.

PRAY: God, we ask your blessing on the workers at The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre and on the children and families who receive care from them. Help them all to feel your presence and know you are with them. Bless the offering we have collected that it may be used to share your love and do your work. Amen.

Transition to Respond

SAY: There were only seven pieces of food in the young boy’s lunch—five loaves of bread and two fish—but Jesus used them to feed many, many people.

- Have the children do each of the following actions seven times: clap, jump, stomp their feet.
- Dismiss the children to their small groups.

5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

The community of believers was one in heart and mind. (Acts 4:32)



RESPOND

Younger Elementary Small Group

Reflect and Connect

Before class: Photocopy "Giving Cards" (Leader Guide—p. 55) for each child. Cut construction paper into 3-by-4½ pieces.

SAY: Today we heard the story of Jesus using a young boy's lunch to feed a lot of people. The boy contributed his lunch to help the community of people gathered to listen to Jesus. We are going to spend time thinking about ways we can be helpers in our community.

- Give each child a copy of "Giving Cards." Have each child cut the cards apart.
- Encourage each child to glue each card onto a piece of construction paper.
- Invite the children to sit in a circle with their sets of cards.
- Have one child choose one of his or her cards. Read the card and encourage all of the children to find the same card in their cards.
- Invite the children to suggest ways they could follow the directions on the card.
- Continue in this manner until you have discussed all of the cards. For the card that says, "I can...", have the children think of ways they can be givers other than the ways listed on the other cards.

SAY: When you take your cards home, use them to help remember the many ways you can be a giver and share God's love with others.

Blessing

- Have the children sit in a circle.

SAY: Each week during our Small Group Time, you will receive a blessing. Blessings help remind us that we are important and loved by God. Today when I give you a blessing, I will give you a high five.

- Bless each child in turn by giving each child a high five.

SAY: (*Child's name*), God loves you. You can share God's love with others.

At Home with God

SAY: When you go home today, tell your family about Jesus using a boy's lunch to feed a lot of people.

- Send a copy of "Children Contribute" (Leader Guide—p. 54) home with each child.

5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

The community of believers was one in heart and mind. (Acts 4:32)



RESPOND

Older Elementary Small Group

Reflect and Connect

Before class: Photocopy "Reflection on Giving" (Leader Guide—p. 56) for each child.

SAY: In today's Bible story, we heard about a young boy giving his lunch to help feed others. Jesus accepted the young boy's gift of two fish and five loaves of bread, and used it to do something amazing! Jesus cared about making sure people were fed. He also taught us that even a little gift can make a big difference. We are going to spend some time reflecting on the experiences we have had with giving.

- Give each child a copy of "Reflection on Giving" and a pencil.
- Allow time for the children to reflect and write.
- After the children have had time for reflection, discuss the questions together as a group.

SAY: As followers of Jesus, we look for ways to share God's love with other people. Sometimes the way to share God's love is by giving something we have to help someone else.

Blessing

- Have the children sit in a circle.

SAY: Each week during our Small Group Time, you will receive a blessing. Blessings help remind us that we are important and loved by God. Today when I give you a blessing, I will give you a high five.

- Bless each child in turn by giving each child a high five.

SAY: *(Child's name)*, God loves you. You can share God's love with others.

At Home with God

SAY: When you go home today, tell your family about Jesus using a boy's lunch to feed a lot of people.

- Send a copy of "Children Contribute" (Leader Guide—p. 54) home with each child.

5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

Bible Story



- (First photo, please.)* Many people who had heard about Jesus wanted to hear him teach. One day Jesus was teaching on the side of a mountain. A large crowd of people had gathered.
- (Next photo, please.)* Jesus looked at the crowd and said to the disciples, “Where will we buy food to feed these people?”
- (Next photo, please.)* The disciples said, “It would take a lot of money to feed all of these people!”
- (Next photo, please.)* One of the disciples said, “There is a young boy here who has five loaves of bread and two fish. That won’t do us any good!”
- (Next photo, please.)* Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.”
- (Next photo, please.)* After the people sat down, Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to God, and then distributed the bread to all of the people sitting there.
- (Next photo, please.)* Jesus did the same thing with the fish.
- (Next photo, please.)* After everyone had eaten plenty, Jesus told his disciples to gather up the leftover pieces.
- (Next photo, please.)* The disciples gathered up twelve baskets of leftover bread and fish.
- (Next photo, please.)* When the people saw this miracle, they knew that Jesus was God’s Son.
- (Based on John 6:1-15.)*

At Home with God

DO THIS WITH YOUR FAMILY AT HOME: TAKE INVENTORY AND SHARE EXTRAS

In today’s Bible story, we heard how Jesus used a young boy’s lunch to feed many people. Jesus taught us that no contribution is too small to make a difference.

We sometimes accumulate more things than we need. Take a look around your house.

- Do you have clothes that no longer fit or that you no longer wear?
- Do you have toys you no longer play with?
- Do you have books that you are ready to share with someone else?
- Are there other things you no longer have a need for that could be used by someone else?

Work together to select items to be shared with others.

Make sure items are still useable and in good shape.

Donate items to a local organization for distribution.

5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

Giving Cards



<p>I can give money to the church.</p>	<p>I can give food to help people.</p>
<p>I can give clothes to help other people.</p>	<p>I can give of my time to help someone else.</p>
<p>I can make something for someone.</p>	<p>I can give a hug to someone who is sad.</p>
<p>I can tell someone I love them.</p>	<p>I can . . .</p>

5. Children Contribute (John 6:1-15)

Reflection on Giving



Tell about a time you donated money to the church or another organization. How did you get the money you donated? What was your money used for?

Tell about a time you donated something other than money, such as food, clothing, or toys. What were the items used for? How did you decide what to donate?

Have you ever volunteered your time to help someone? Tell about that experience.

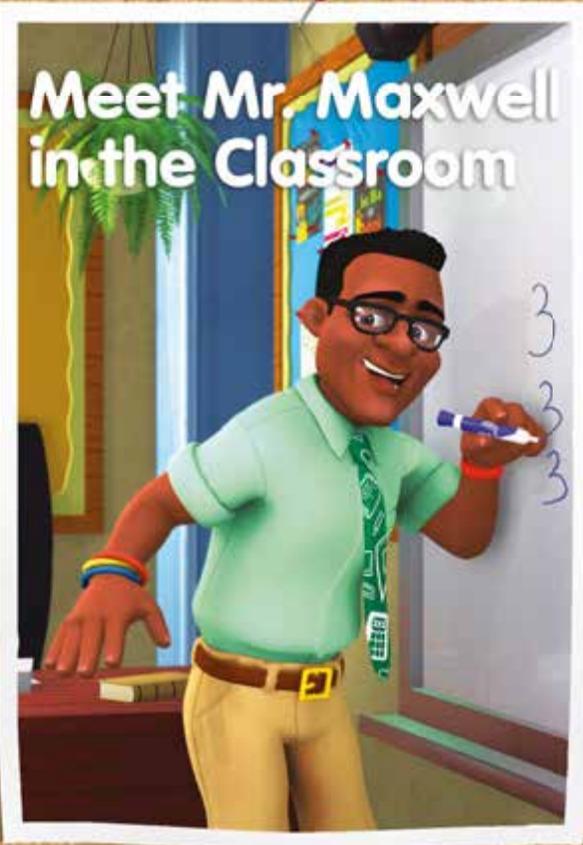
How does it make you feel when you are able to help others?

What are some specific ways that you can share God's love with someone this week?

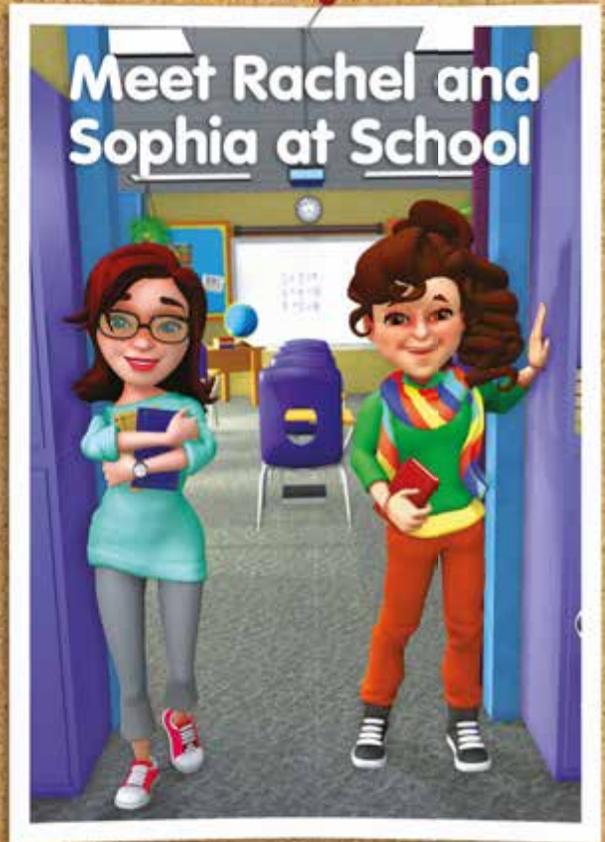
DEEP BLUE CONNECTS Loving God, Loving Neighbor

Coming
Winter 2019-20!

Meet Mr. Maxwell
in the Classroom



Meet Rachel and
Sophia at School



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