

Family Lesson 6I

Principle: Jesus is the provider.

Bible Character(s): Jesus

Scripture Reference: Mark 6:30-44

1. Worship - Gather your family and play the [worship video](#) found on the curriculum resource page. Have fun, sing loudly, and follow along with the motions!

2. Skit Video - Watch the [skit video](#) with your family to hear a special message about what you will be learning this weekend.

3. Bible Lesson - Read through the lesson with your family. The bold font is meant to be read aloud along with the Scripture references.

Bible Lesson

Last week, what did we learn about? (We learned about how Jesus forgave the sinful woman.) **What did the sinful woman do?** (She washed Jesus' feet with her hair.) **Why?** (Because she loved him and wanted to worship him.) **What did Jesus do?** (He forgave her sins.) **We are sinners too, and we need forgiveness of our sins. We can come to Jesus, just like the sinful woman did, and we can thank God and worship him for the gracious forgiveness he gives.**

This week, we are going to read an amazing account about how Jesus provided for his disciples and for a large crowd of people. We will study from this passage to see how Jesus is our provider.

Let's begin reading the Bible in Mark 6 [NLT].

Mark 6: 30-31

³⁰ The apostles returned to Jesus from their ministry tour and told him all they had done and taught. ³¹ Then Jesus said, "Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile." He

said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat.

Is Jesus taking care of the disciples? (Allow responses.) **Yes, he knows they need rest. He provides for them and takes them away to a quiet place. Jesus knows that we need rest as well. He knows exactly what we need, when we need it. We will watch for the needs that Jesus meets in our passage today. Let's keep an eye out for the other needs Jesus meets in our passage. Let's continue to read the Bible in Mark.**

Mark 6:32-34

³² So they left by boat for a quiet place, where they could be alone. ³³ But many people recognized them and saw them leaving, and people from many towns ran ahead along the shore and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

Jesus is our Good Shepherd. Explain how a shepherd provides for and protects his sheep and how Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

Psalm 23:1-4

¹ The Lord is my shepherd;

I have all that I need

² He lets me rest in green meadows;

he leads me beside peaceful streams.

³ He renews my strength.

He guides me along right paths,

bringing honor to his name.

⁴ Even when I walk

through the darkest valley,

I will not be afraid,

for you are close beside me.

*Your rod and your staff
protect and comfort me.*

A shepherd keeps his sheep alive. He makes sure the sheep have water to drink and grass to eat. He leads them back home from the pasture and protects them from wild animals. If the sheep do not have a shepherd, they will die. The shepherd provides them with all that they need. Jesus is our shepherd as well. He provides us with all that we need.

Let's keep reading the Bible to see what happens.

Mark 6:35-37

³⁵ *Late in the afternoon his disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. ³⁶ Send the crowds away so they can go to the nearby farms and villages and buy something to eat."*

³⁷ *But Jesus said, "You feed them."*

"With what?" they asked. "We'd have to work for months to earn enough money to buy food for all these people!"

The people are hungry. Jesus is concerned about their hearts and their hunger. The disciples don't believe that Jesus can feed the people and meet their need of hunger. They think that it is impossible to feed 5000 people. How much money do you think that would take? (Allow responses.) It would definitely take a lot!

Ask your child if they could take a piece of bread and divide it to make a meal for everyone in your family. Talk about how many loaves of bread it would take to feed 10 people, and how many fish it would take to feed 10 people. Then talk about it for 50, 100, 500, 1000, and 5000. God is our provider.

Mark 6:38-44

³⁸ *"How much bread do you have?" he asked. "Go and find out."*

They came back and reported, "We have five loaves of bread and two fish."

³⁹ *Then Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups on the green grass.*

⁴⁰ *So they sat down in groups of fifty or a hundred.*

⁴¹ *Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he kept giving the bread to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people. He also divided the fish for everyone to share. ⁴² They all ate as much as they wanted, ⁴³ and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftover bread and fish. ⁴⁴ A total of 5,000 men and their families were fed from those loaves!*

How amazing is this? Jesus takes what he has and feeds 5000 people with only a small amount of food! Verse 42 says "they all ate as much as they wanted." They did not eat just one bite—they ate as much as they wanted! After everyone is done, there are still 12 baskets left over, Jesus provides all of these people with what they need in an amazing way. God is our provider. He meets all of our needs.

We see Jesus provide for his disciples and the people in several different ways today. He gives his disciples rest when they need it. He teaches the people who need a shepherd to guide them. And he provides enough food from five loaves of bread and two fish for all 5000 people to eat as much as they want. It seems impossible, but Jesus is able to provide despite the doubts of his disciples. We can trust in his promise to provide for all of our needs. Read Ephesians 3: 20 - 21 together as a family.

Ephesians 3:20-21

²⁰ *Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. ²¹ Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.*

Prayer

Spend a few minutes in prayer to close the lesson. Pray for any needs you may have identified from the passage, or any needs in general, and give God glory for His provision.

Activity

Jesus Provides

The purpose is to identify all the needs that we have and that Jesus met in this passage and to see how God provides for us.

Supplies:

Piece of Paper

Have your child write “Jesus Provides” at the top of their paper. Talk about and help your child recognize the needs that Jesus met in today’s passages. Have your child write down or draw pictures of the ways that Jesus met the people’s needs. On the back, have your child write “God Is My Provider.” Have them think of ways that God provides for them each day. They can draw pictures or write it down (life, strength, health, peace, family, friends, clothes, a bed, etc).

Jesus meets all of our needs. We saw Jesus meet many needs in our study today, even when it seemed impossible. There will be times when it seems impossible for your needs to be met, or you might think they will never be met. We can trust God to provide for us even when it seems impossible. He is our Provider.

