

NO ORDINARY MAN

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

Bible Basis: Matthew 5:2–12; 6:5–15; 14:22–32; Mark 4:30–34, 35–41; 6:30–44; Luke 10:25–37; 15:1–7; John 6:66–71

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

Resource: *The Story for Children*, Chapter 24: "No Ordinary Man"

PARENT TIPS

Read the key point from the Sunday school class your child(ren) attended. 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

- **God doesn't like show-offs.** In Jesus' time, some people made a big show about how spiritual they were. They'd go outside and make a huge fuss that they were praying. Jesus told his followers to act differently. He taught them to pray in a quiet place. Where do you like to pray? Do you pray at a certain time of day?
- **The Bible says God "knows what you need before you even ask him."** How can he know that? Since he already knows, why do you need to pray?
- **When Jesus teaches us to pray, he says to forgive others for the bad things they do to us, just like God forgives us.** Is it hard to forgive others? Who are some people you've forgiven recently? Is there anyone you need to forgive right now?
- **One of the coolest things Jesus did was walk on the water.** What do you think that would be like?
- **Peter tried to walk on the water, but took his eyes off Jesus and went for a swim instead.** What's your favorite part about swimming?

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 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.