

## WEEK 4

### LESSON GUIDE

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### BIG IDEA

Jesus can do anything.

### BIBLE

Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand:  
Matthew 15:29–39

## ABOUT THIS WEEK

Aquariums don't just introduce us to amazing creatures, but they remind us that anything is possible underneath the ocean. This week, we'll hear about the time Jesus did something that seemed impossible and fed four thousand people. Even though there wasn't enough food for everyone, Jesus knew exactly how to help, and the story of how he cared for these people shows us that **Jesus can do anything**.

### WELCOME TIME

#### ACTIVITY | Fish Tag

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, start by putting an ocean sticker on each kid. Then, hand each kid a roll of ocean stickers (like [these](#)). Have them go around the room and stick a sticker on another kid's shirt. Keep going until they run out. Help kids count how many stickers they have on their shirts.
- Look at how many stickers we got! We started out with just one, but when we went around and shared, we ended up with a lot more.
- In today's Bible story, Jesus takes fish and bread and makes way more than he started with. It's going to be a *miraculous* story!

### STORY TIME

#### SCRIPTURE | Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand (Matthew 15:29–39)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach this passage by reading from a preschool-friendly Bible translation Bible storybook, or using the talking points provided below. Each time you say the word "miraculous" throughout the story, wave your hands and wiggle your fingers in an arch formation. Invite kids to join you.
- Well, hello there, friends! I'm so excited to share one more **miraculous** story with you!
  - **What was the super special word again? Mir-a-cu-lous.**
  - Remember, a *miracle* is something surprising (*make a surprised face*) and very hard to explain (*point to the temple, making a confused face*).
- Let's dive in! In today's **miraculous** story, we learn that Jesus spent much time with people. He went from place to place to teach people about God. He showed how much he cared about them by showing them miracles and being their friend.

- Let's give Jesus two thumbs up. Jesus is the best!
- One day, he was teaching a large crowd, and it was getting late. The crowd was hungry. But there was not enough food for everybody. All they had was seven (*shown on fingers*) loaves of bread and a few small fish.
  - Show me how you look when you are super hungry.
  - What **miraculous** thing was Jesus about to do?
- Jesus gave thanks to God and began passing out the food. Here's the **miraculous** part ... the food never ran out! There was enough food for everyone.
  - Now show me how you look when you are super full.
  - Thank you, Jesus, that was yummy.
- From a few small fish and seven loaves of bread, Jesus fed over four thousand people until they were so full there were leftovers.
- Everyone thought there was no way Jesus could feed all those people. But Jesus showed he was able to do anything. **Miraculous!**

**BIG IDEA** | Jesus can do anything.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write this week's Big Idea on a large piece of paper cut out of a fish (use outlines [like these](#)). Tape or glue the fish onto a blue sheet or plastic tablecloth representing the ocean. You may want to take a group picture in front of your completed Big Idea ocean.
- Our fish friend here is going to help us learn the Big Idea together.
  - Jesus (Sign language for "[Jesus](#)" [JESUS, YESHUA • ASL Dictionary](#))
  - can do anything (Flex muscles)

**VIDEO** | Miraculous, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

**ACTIVITY** | Loaves And Fish Relay

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, tear brown construction paper into quarters to represent bread, and prepare deflated balloons to represent fish (you can replace balloons with sponges if needed). You will need to fill two "baskets" (shoeboxes) with "loaves" and "fish." Place the "baskets" at one end of the room. Separate kids into two teams and line them up at the other end of the room. One player from each team has to run to the "baskets," grab one piece of bread and one fish, and come back to their team. Keep going until all the team members have one bread and one fish, or keep playing until the shoeboxes are empty!
- The people didn't know how they would be able to have enough to eat from only seven loaves of bread and a few fish. But because of Jesus, there was enough! There was more than enough! People ate as much as they wanted, and there were leftovers.
- Jesus can do anything.

**PRAYER**

- Thank you, Jesus, for your miracles. You can do anything. Thank you for loving us. We love you. Amen.

**SHARING TIME**

**ACTIVITY** | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Sit in a circle together. Pass around an ocean-themed stuffed animal so kids can take turns answering questions. The person holding the stuffed animal gets to speak.
- How many people came to listen to Jesus? Over four thousand people came. That's a lot!
- While Jesus was spending time with people in our Bible story, what problem came up? The people were hungry, and there was not enough food.
- How much food was there in the beginning? Seven loaves of bread and a few fish
- Was Jesus able to feed everybody? Yes! He thanked God for the bread and fish and passed it out. There was enough food for everyone, plus leftovers.
- Let's say our Big Idea together: Jesus can do anything.

**MEMORY VERSE** | Psalm 77:14 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words to the tune of "Baby Shark." You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say it using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.
- "You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples."

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**PLAY TIME**

**ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.