



Small Stewards - Big Blessings

Biblical Stewardship Lessons for and with Children

(You are invited to share these lessons with children as Sunday school openings, classroom devotions or other church settings. They can also be used in the home for family devotions. Each month a Biblical "small steward" will share a "big blessing" as a Spirit-blessed example of stewardship.)

Text: John 6:1-13 Boy with lunch of five loaves and two fish.

When are you asked to share? (Get responses from children: I have to share my candy with my brothers and sisters; etc.) Is it hard to share? (Again, get responses from children: Sometimes I want to keep everything for myself; etc.) What's fun about sharing?

Read or retell the story of the "Feeding of the 5,000." When the Gospel writer John shares this story with us, he tells us about a little boy who had come to see Jesus. (vs. 9) The little boy had brought his lunch. The boy was a steward of his lunch. We're going to hear the word "steward" often in our lessons this year. A "steward" is one who takes care of something that has been given to him. God had created the fish and flour that were the food in the bag. Someone in the boy's family had probably fixed the lunch for the boy. All the boy did was carry the lunch with him and take care of it until it was time to eat it. We enjoy the food, clothing and everything else we have. God made it all. Our parents and others provide it for us. We are blessed to take care of it and use it wisely. We are stewards of our lunch and lots of other things!

The little boy shared his lunch with Jesus. Jesus blessed what the little boy shared and used it to work a miracle. The boy's lunch brought a big blessing: 5000 people are fed from what Jesus miraculously blesses and divides. Think of all the things that God gives you. How can you share with others?

When we come to church and Sunday school we also have the opportunity to share. God blesses us to be stewards of money. We may get an allowance or some money from grandparents or others. With our offerings we share those gifts so that others might hear about the Jesus who was powerful enough to feed 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish, and who also went to the cross for us. God blesses what we share. Our offerings might not feed thousands of people but they may help one person learn about the Jesus who loves us all.

Young Investors (Y.I.) are also "small stewards" whom God uses to bring "big blessings" to His church. We'll learn more about how what we save also shares the Good News of Jesus.

Dear Jesus. Thank you for sharing Your love with me. Thank you for my lunch and everything you have given me. Teach me to joyfully share what You have given me. Amen.

Small Stewards Bring Big Blessings Home

A little boy was blessed to share his lunch with Jesus and 5000 others. How do we share with each other in our family? What has God given us to share with others?

Children share the Good News of Jesus as they participate in the Young Investor (Y.I.) Club. Y.I. Club is an opportunity for children to save and share. Y.I. Club investments provide opportunities for churches and schools to be built around the world so that the Good News of Jesus is shared.

Older children (World Changers) who share their time and talents through community service earn additional dollars in the Y.I. Club account.

Be part of the Y.I. Club! Contact your church or visit www.lcef.org for more information