

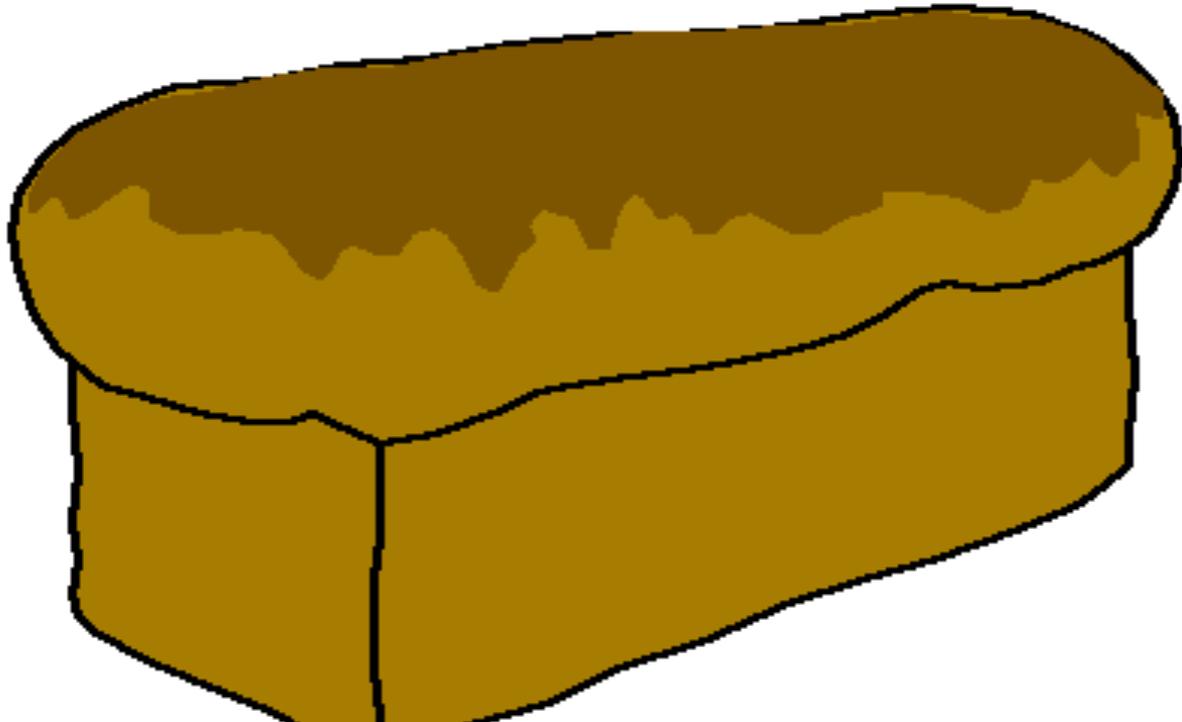
One day, Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee. Perhaps He wanted a little break from the crowds which always gathered around Him. But the crowds soon found Him. They knew Jesus did great miracles. They wanted to be with Him.



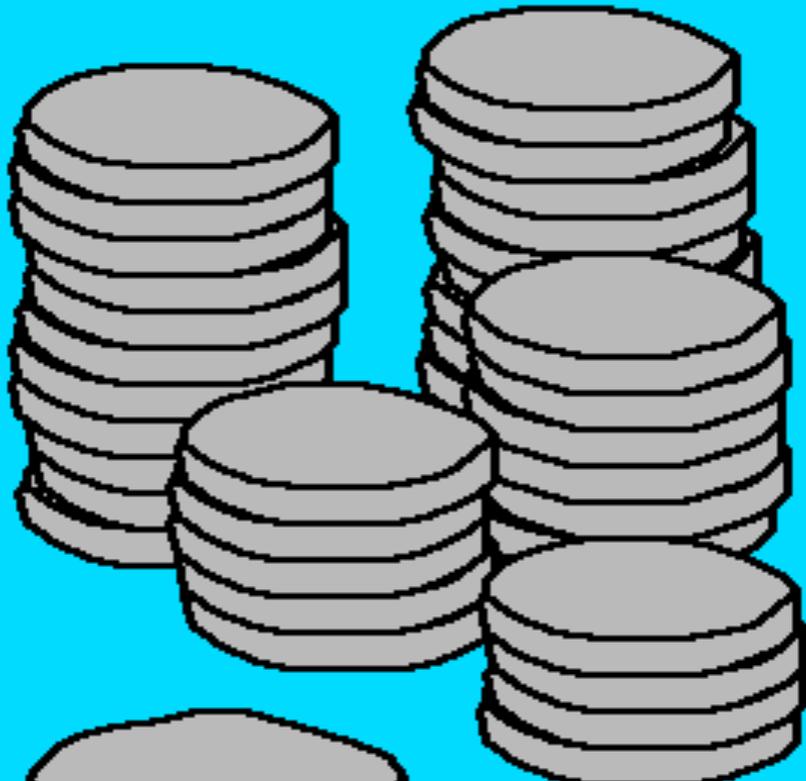
Jesus led His disciples to a deserted mountain spot where He sat, teaching. More and more people kept coming. Soon it was suppertime. Everybody must have been hungry.

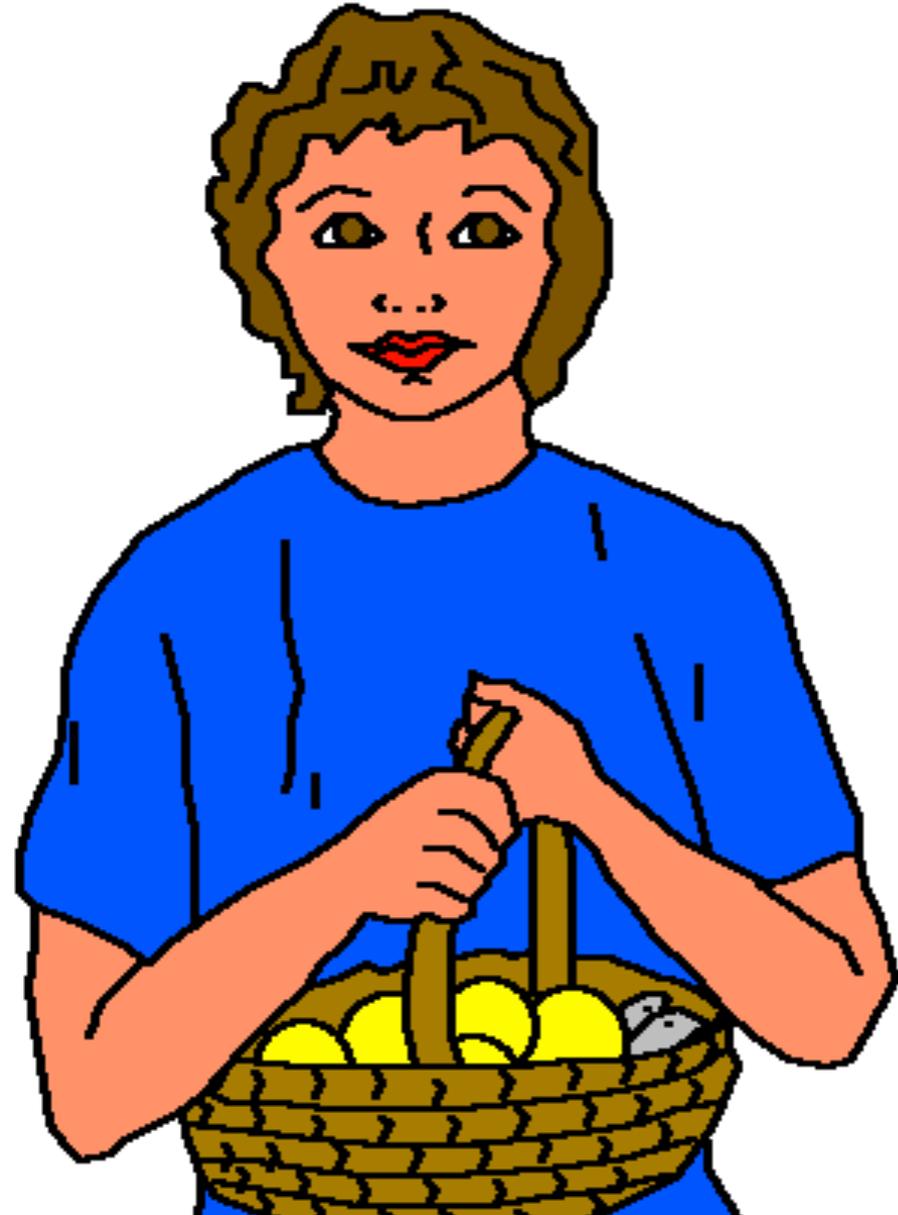


Jesus looked at the crowd. "Where shall we buy bread that these may eat?" He asked Philip. There were no food stores around. What was Jesus planning to do?



"It would cost a fortune to feed this crowd," Philip answered Jesus. Jesus and His disciples did not have much money.





Another disciple,
Andrew (Simon Peter's
brother) said to Jesus:
"There is a lad here who
has five barley loaves
and two small fish, . . ."

"... but what are they among so many?" Andrew didn't see how the little boy's lunch could feed very many people - even if the boy were willing to give his lunch to Jesus.



Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. Wow! FIVE THOUSAND! That didn't even include the women and children who were there also.



Next, Jesus took the loaves and fish. The little boy must have trusted Jesus. He didn't know what Jesus wanted his lunch, or what Jesus would do with it. He may have thought, "If I give my lunch away, I can't eat."



But he
gave it to
Jesus
anyway.
Then,
Jesus
prayed.
He gave thanks to God.
For five loaves and two
fish? Yes! Jesus said
"Thank You" to God
and asked Him to
bless the food.



After praying, Jesus broke the loaves and fishes and gave them to the disciples who shared them among the great crowd. That's when people saw the miracle Jesus did. Each person ate all he wanted. Yet the loaves and fishes weren't used up.



After everybody was fed, there was still a lot of bread and fish left over. "Gather up the fragments so that nothing is lost," Jesus told the disciples. They filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. That day, Jesus fed over 5000 people with a little boy's lunch.





The End