

Bread for All



Description:

An object lesson

Aims:

- Appreciate having access to God's Word
- Desire to help those who are still waiting for God's Word in their language
- Pray for Bibleless people groups

Audience:

Elementary

Country/Area:

Peru

Minimum Time Requirements:

9-12 minutes

Scripture to Study:

Matthew 4:4

2 Corinthians 9:10, 11

Materials:

- Bread for all children (and teachers), could be mini bagels, cinnamon bread, flavored tortillas, etc. Be creative.
- A container for the bread that will allow children to see what is inside (e.g. a basket)
- Bible, preferably in a child-friendly version like the New Living Translation or New International Readers Version
- Bibleless Peoples Tumbler or jar of 2,000 small, colorful candies
- "Pick and Pray" or another prayer game from Wycliffe (optional)

Pre-Class Preparations:

- Before class ask one student to help you. Explain that you will invite him/her to the front to have some bread. When asked about being hungry, the student should say that s/he is hungry. Tell the child that you are going to give him/her a basket of bread, but that s/he should just stand there holding it and looking at it until you say to eat some of it. After s/he eats some, you will ask him/her to sit down on the reserved seat in the front row. The child should take the basket with him/her when told to go sit down. Make sure that the child knows exactly what to do. You may even want to practice.
- Reserve one seat in the front row where your student “volunteer” can sit.
- Prepare the “Pick and Pray” or another prayer game available at Wycliffe (optional)
- If you plan to use the Bibleless Peoples Tumbler, obtain a copy from Wycliffe

For optional craft:

- Make copies of the person outline from page 8 of the lesson “Pick and Pray” on cardstock. You will need one for each child.
- Decide which version of the activity you will do and prepare the materials needed accordingly.

Class Time:

Introduce yourself. Then say,

I brought some bread with me that I thought you might enjoy.

Pretend to catch the aroma and say,

Mmm. That smells so-o-o good!

Looking at the child to whom you spoke earlier ask,

Are you hungry? Would you like a piece of this wonderful bread?

After the child says that s/he is hungry, say,

Come up here to the front. You can have a little snack.

When your helper is standing beside you, ask,

What is your name?

After hearing the name say,

Well, (name), I'm glad to hear that you are hungry. Here you go.
Help yourself to a piece of bread.

Materials:

- Container of bread

Hand the child the whole container of bread and let him or her admire it for a little while. After a few moments, ask the other children,

What would you do if you were hungry and had a basket of bread?

After the children have responded, turn to your helper and say,
Go ahead and eat some of that bread. You will like it.

After s/he has eaten, say,

I hope that you really enjoyed your bread. You may go sit down there in the front row.

Reach out your hand as if to accept the basket back from him/her and look surprised when s/he takes it with him/her.

Ask the rest of the children,

Were you hoping that you would get to enjoy a snack, too?

When they answer that they would like some, ask,

I would like to let all of you have some. What do you think (name of volunteer child) should do with the bread that s/he didn't eat?

They will probably answer that s/he should share the bread.

Explain,

Well, I will tell you something. Before class I asked (name) to keep all of the bread, just like s/he did. I will explain why in just a little bit. For now, I'm going to ask him/her to bring the basket back to me. After class, I will give each of you a piece of this wonderful bread.

Ask,

What did you think when (name) just stood there looking at the bread?

Allow children to respond, then say,

Believe it or not, you and I often do the same kind of thing. We have something that is a lot more important than bread. Even though it is so important, we may not use it as much as we should. I'm going to read a verse from the Bible. Listen and try to figure out what that very important thing is.

Read Matthew 4:4 and then ask,

According to Jesus, what do we need even more than bread?

Materials:

- Bible

Allow children to answer that it is God's Word. Then continue,
What is another name for God's Word? That's right. It's the Bible.
Do we ever act like (name) with God's Word?

Allow for responses.

God wants us to be hungry for His Word. He wants us to read His Word, the Bible. Why do we need God's Word?

Allow children to respond. Possible answers include that it tells us about Jesus, how to get to heaven, and how God wants us to live.

Ask the children,

How did you feel when (the volunteer) kept all of the bread, even after eating a piece?

Allow children to respond. Then ask,

Do we ever do the same thing with God's Word, the Bible?

Allow for responses and discuss the fact that often we enjoy having a Bible and reading all about Jesus or hearing exciting Bible stories. Then we forget that there are others who also need to know what the Bible says. Continue,

Did you know that more than 2,000 language groups don't have the Bible in a language that they can understand well? They don't even have John 3:16!!

Display the Bibleless Peoples Tumbler or the jar containing 2,000 pieces of candy.

This shows how many language groups do not have even one verse of the Bible in their languages. A lot of times, we forget about them. What do these people need?

After accepting a few responses, continue,

One language group that is finally able to enjoy reading and hearing the Bible in their own language is a Quechua group in Peru. There are more than 30 different Quechua language groups in South America, and many of them still do not have the Bible in their language. The group mentioned in this story finally received the New Testament in their language in 2003.

Hold up one piece of the bread as a prop as you tell the following story.

At the dedication celebration for the Quechua New Testament in Peru, one of the speakers held up a piece of bread for the crowd to see. She explained to the people that God's Word is like the bread. She said, "*When you are hungry you don't just look at the bread and admire how nice it looks. No, you eat it! And when you've had your fill, and there's still more, you don't just put it aside. No, you go out and share it with others who are hungry like you!*"

Materials:

- Bibleless Peoples Tumbler *or* a jar of 2,000 small, colorful candies
- One piece of bread

Does that remind you of our bread? (Name) first just looked at it instead of enjoying the wonderful thing s/he had. Then, after s/he had eaten all s/he needed, s/he still kept it to him/herself. Is that what God wants us to do with His Word? Listen to these verses and see what you think.

Read 2 Corinthians 9:10, 11. Then add,

We already have the Bible in the language we understand best. Should we keep it to ourselves? No, God wants us to be generous. He wants us to share the wonderful things He has given us.

What can you do to share the Bible with those who don't have it yet? Wycliffe Bible Translators has a goal. They want to have Bible translation work begun for all the languages that still need it by the year 2025. How many years away is that?

Allow the children to figure this out. You may need to help them a little bit.

How old will you be in 2025?

Accept a few answers.

Isn't that amazing? You will be old enough to help with some of the last new Bible translations! That's exciting!

The year 2025 is still a few years away, though, and you are still children. Are you able to go translate God's Word, the Bible for people who don't have it right now? No. Maybe God will ask you to go someplace else to help Bibleless people groups when you grow up. That would be a pretty amazing job to have.

You may be too young to go and work in Bible translation today. That doesn't mean you can't help give God's Word to some of those 2,000 language groups, though. What can you do now, in (year), to share God's Word with people who don't have even one Bible verse in a language they really understand?

Allow a few children to answer. Some answers may include giving or praying. Continue,

Yes, you can pray for them. God answers children's prayers. You can also give money to help people who are doing Bible translation so that they can give God's Word to those who don't have it. Just think, you can be an important part of the Bible translation team, right now!!

Play a prayer game (see page 1) or close in prayer for Bibleless people groups. Look at this page <http://www.wycliffe.org/pray/BiblelessPeoplesPrayerProject.aspx> for current daily prayer requests.

Materials:

- Bible