

**Phonics Script**

**Jesus Wants Children  
to be a Part of his Work  
(short a, e. i)**

Jesus feeds 5000 people from John 6: 1-13

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This is a Bible story which a student and a tutor can read together. This story is taken from John 6: 1-13.

The student will read the parts of the **CHILD**. The tutor will take all the other parts. Feel free to read with some dramatic flair.



**NARRATOR:** A crowd has been following Jesus all day. They have been listening to his teaching and asking him to heal sick people. The crowd has grown very large. There about 5000 men and also many women and many children. Jesus has gathered them on a mountain side. A child and a friend are talking to each other.

**FRIEND:** I love hearing Jesus teach about loving God and helping others.

**CHILD:** Yes, I want to help Jesus.

**FRIEND:** But we are just kids. Kids can't help Jesus.

**CHILD:** Yes we can.

**FRIEND:** How? We are just kids.

**CHILD:** I can help Jesus. I can give a gift to a pal sick in bed.

**FRIEND :** I guess you are right, Jesus cares about sick people. Helping a sick person is helping Jesus.

**CHILD:** I can pick up a bag for a man with a bad hip; or I can give a stick to a pal with a bad leg, or help a man with a limp up a step.

**FRIEND:** Yes, I can see how that is doing the work Jesus wants us to do for others.

**CHILD:** I can give a knit hat to a pal in rags.

**FRIEND:** You are right again. Jesus cares about people who are poor.

**CHILD:** I can have a tag with a kid with a limp.

**FRIEND:** Yes, a kid with a limp would be left out of games. Jesus cares about people who get left out by others.

**CHILD:** I can lend my dad a hand. I can help my dad fix a bent pen or help him mend a dent in a pan.

**FRIEND:** Helping your family is doing Jesus' work, too.

**CHILD:** I can tell my pals that Jesus loves kids.

**FRIEND:** Yes, Jesus loves us. He wants everybody to know that.

**CHILD:** I am a kid. Still, I can help Jesus.

**FRIEND:** You are right, you are just a kid, but you can still help Jesus. But all those things you talk about are little things. Jesus can't use kids for really big jobs.

**NARRATOR:** As the two children talk they have wandered close to Jesus and his disciples. The children overhear a conversation.

**JESUS:** I have a really big job. I want to feed all these thousands of people on this mountainside.

**PHILIP:** That is a very, very big job! There are 5000 men here. Who knows how many people there are when you count all the women and all the children.

**JESUS:** Where can we buy bread for all these people to eat?

**PHILIP:** We can't buy enough bread for this many people! It would take as much money as we get paid in 8 months! And that would only be enough money to buy everybody just one bite of bread!

**FRIEND:** (to child) Now, feeding 5000 people is a big job! You can't help Jesus with a big job like that.

**CHILD:** Yes, I can help. I can give what I have.

**NARRATOR:** The child goes up to one of the disciples. The disciple's name is Andrew.

**CHILD:** I can help. I want to give Jesus this.

**ANDREW:** This is five tiny loaves of barley bread and two small fish. This won't help feed two people let alone more than 5000!

**NARRATOR:** Andrew turns to Jesus.

**ANDREW:** Here is a child who wants to help you feed all these people. The child giving you this lunch. It's five small loaves of barley bread and two small fish. The child thinks this would actually help you.

**JESUS:** It does help me. Thank you, dear child! This is just what I need to feed all these people. My child, you have helped me do a very big job today!

**NARRATOR:** Jesus turns to the disciples.

**JESUS:** Have the people sit down.

**NARRATOR:** Once everybody is sitting down, Jesus takes the loaves and the fish that the child had given him and gives thanks. Using only what the child gave him, Jesus hands out that bread and that fish to all those who are seated. The child had given him only five loaves and two fish, but Jesus keeps handing out the food until everybody has as much as they want. Everybody eats until they are full. Jesus feeds more than 5000 people with just the five loaves and the two fish that the child had given him. When the people are finished, Jesus turns again to his disciples.

**JESUS:** Gather up all the left over pieces. Don't waste anything.

**NARRATOR:** So the disciples gather up what is left over from the five barley loaves and the two fish. The disciples fill 12 baskets with the pieces that the people were too full to eat.

**FRIEND:** Wow, I guess you did help Jesus do a very big job ... and you are just a kid! Jesus used the small lunch that you gave him to feed more than 5000 people!

**CHILD:** Jesus loves me and lets me help him. Kids can help Jesus.

**THE END**