3. Learn by Doing

Choose one or two activities

Choice You Fed Me



The Lord fed various groups of people while He was on earth. In each instance He asked people to prepare for Him by finding a room and making a meal, or by bringing food themselves. Students will read a variety of stories from the New Testament and complete a question page to help identify similarities and differences between the stories. Conclude with a discussion of what food the Lord likes and how we feed Him.

1. We’re going to look at stories from the Word which mention the Lord feeding people during His life on earth. Working with a partner you will read one story and answer questions. Then we will gather as a group to discover similarities and differences between the stories.
2. Divide the class into pairs. Give each pair copies of *You Fed Me* (pp. 2-3) and *You Fed Me Reading Questions* (p. 4), and a pen or pencil. (For small groups, have students work individually to cover more stories for comparison.)
3. Decide who will read which story so that at least three different stories are covered. **Do not read number six. You will read this as a group later.**
4. Complete the question sheets.
5. Gather as a group. Go through the answer sheets one question at a time and ask students to share their responses. Look for similarities and differences in the stories.
6. Read story six, *Food and Drink for the Lord*, together. This story is unique because the Lord asks for a drink and the disciples are concerned about giving Him food.
7. In this story, what is the Lord’s food?
8. How do we “feed” the Lord? (By humbly doing His will.) The Psalmist says,

   The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit,
   A broken and a contrite heart—
   These, O God, You will not despise.
   Psalm 51:17

9. Doing the Lord’s will means treating others as He would wish us to treat them. One of the things He charges us to do is to feed others—

   with natural food and with spiritual food from His Word. This is the love and support we can offer.

Materials Needed for Each Student

You Fed Me pp. 2-3, You Fed Me Reading Questions p. 4, pen or pencil

New Church Concept
Food and Drink

“Food and drink” signify all things that nourish and sustain spiritual life, and these in general are knowledges of truth and good. Spiritual life needs nourishment and support just as much as natural life does; so it is said to be famished when a person is deprived of knowledges, or when they fail, or when they are unknown but are desired. *Apocalypse Explained* 386

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You Fed Me

1. **Feeding of the Five Thousand**
   After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee.... Then a great multitude followed Him... And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples…. Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little." One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world." John 6:1-14

2. **The Last Supper**
   Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread...His disciples said to Him, "Where do You want us to go and prepare, that You may eat the Passover?" And He sent out two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him. Wherever he goes in, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?"' Then he will show you a large upper room, furnished and prepared; there make ready for us." So His disciples went out, and came into the city, and found it just as He had said to them; and they prepared the Passover. In the evening He came with the twelve.... And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Mark 14:12-17,22-25

3. **Breakfast by the Sea**
   Simon Peter said to them [the other disciples], "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?" They answered Him, "No." And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught." Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?"—knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. John 21:3-13

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4. Food for the Risen Lord

So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" And they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread. Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Luke 24:33-45

5. Feeding of the Four Thousand

Now Jesus called His disciples to Himself and said, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way." Then His disciples said to Him, "Where could we get enough bread in the wilderness to fill such a great multitude?" Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven, and a few little fish." So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. And He took the seven loaves and the fish and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitude. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets full of the fragments that were left. Now those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children. Matthew 15:32-38

6. Food and Drink for the Lord

[Jesus came to Jacob's well, and being wearied from His journey, He sat by the well.] A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water…. Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her water pot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." John 4:7-10,21-38

You Fed Me

Reading Questions

Read one story about the Lord eating with people while He was in the world and answer the following questions.

1. Did the Lord ask a question?

2. If yes, underline the question the Lord asked in the story.

3. What did the Lord tell a person or people to do?

4. Who provided food? (*Note*: Food might come from more than one source.)

5. Who prepared the food?

6. What happened as a result of eating with the Lord?