Learn by Doing

Choice Fingerprint Bread and Fish

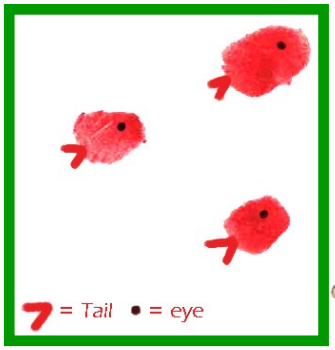
In our story, the Lord feeds 5000 people, starting with only five loaves of barley bread and two small fish. This miracle is a picture of how the Lord satisfies our spiritual hunger for true ideas and good feelings. He blesses them and causes them to multiply in our lives. Children will create a picture of the Lord preparing to feed the people.

1. Hand out the *Feeding the 5000 Background Picture* (p. 2) and ask the children to point out the Lord and the large crowd of people, waiting to be fed.
2. Have you ever been really hungry? Imagine all those people feeling hungry, sitting down in the grass waiting. What did the Lord give them? (bread and fish)
3. The bread is like good things the Lord gives us. What are some good things that the Lord has given you? (family, friends, food, toys, etc.)
4. *Optional*: If using cover-up shirts, help the children put them on.
5. Teach children the following method to make fingerprints to represent the bread in the basket beside the Lord. If using washable markers, color the tip of one finger with a marker, and then press the fingertip down on the paper. Reapply the marker as needed. If using finger paints, dip the tip of a finger into the paint and press on the page. As soon as you are finished making prints, show the children how to clean their fingers.
6. The fish the Lord gave the people is like true ideas that He gives us in His Word. You can picture them swimming around in your mind! Do you know a true idea about the Lord? (He loves us, He takes care of us, He wants us to love each other, etc.)
7. Demonstrate the process of making fingerprints to represent the fish on the other side of the Lord. Show the children how they can add eyes and tails with a marker or pen. (See picture above.)
8. When the projects are finished, help children clean their hands. Remind the children that the picture shows the bread and fish the Lord gave to the people. It can also remind us of the many good things and true ideas that the Lord gives to us.



Materials Needed for Each Child

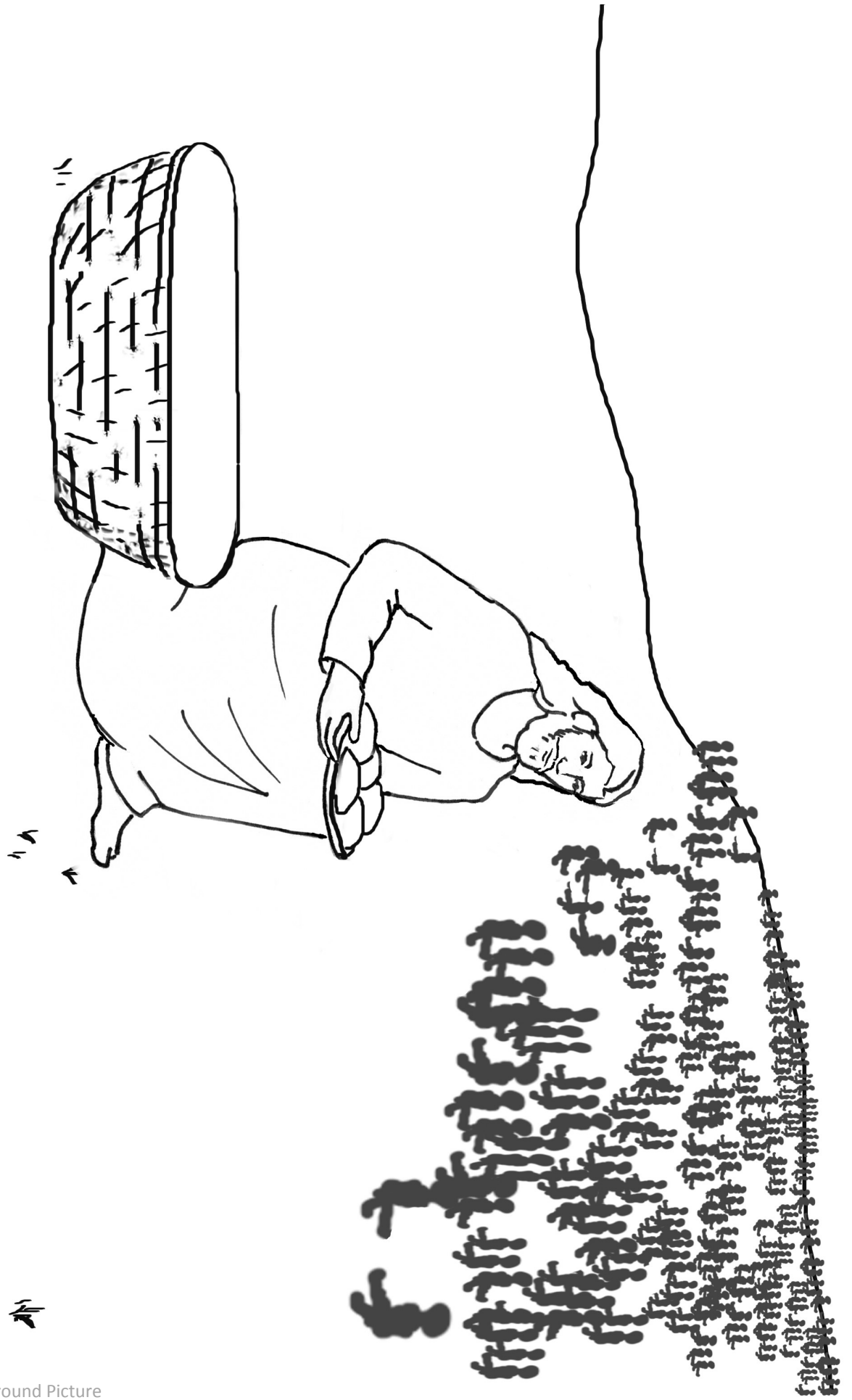
copy of *Feeding the 5000 Background Picture* p. 2, washable markers or finger paints in two or more colors, pen, moist rag or wipe for cleanup; *optional*: old shirts to cover clothing



New Church Concept Nourishment

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…. *Apocalypse Explained* 386

© 2022 General Church of the New Jerusalem



Feeding the 5000 Background Picture

© 2022 General Church of the New Jerusalem