

# A LESSON ON PUTTING OTHERS FIRST

## GRADES 1-3 – Life is a Gift - Lesson II (Year I, Day 2)

**Goal:** To introduce children to the concepts of generosity and selflessness. It is natural to want the very best thing for ourselves. However, the Gospel calls us to follow the example of Jesus who laid down his very life for the sake of each person in the world.

**Materials:** Paper and crayons or markers

**Lesson:** This video depicts the story of Jesus' miracle of the Loaves and Fishes. A large crowd followed Jesus to hear his words, but at the end of the day they did not have any food to eat. A boy in the crowd had with him 5 barley loaves and 2 small fish. Jesus multiplied this small offering into enough food to feed the entire crowd with 12 baskets left over.

**Watch:** [Bible Stories for Kids - A Little Boy Shares](#) from Hope Kids

### Discussion:

- What does this story teach us about sharing/generosity?
- What did the boy do to show generosity?
- Why did he share his food?
- Wasn't he hungry himself?
- How did Jesus show appreciation for his generosity?
- What happens when we give what we have to Jesus?
- What would have happened if the boy wasn't there that day?

### Activity: Craft Project

Have the student decorate several paper "loaves and fish." Throughout the next week, when the teacher notices them do something kind or generous for someone else, they will get to put one of their loaves or fish up on the wall. Once the wall is full of fish, celebrate with a special snack! Explain how Jesus "multiplies" the little acts of love that we give Him.

**Prayer:**

*Jesus, teach me to share and be generous to  
people I see every day.*

*Help me to think of others before myself,  
and to happily give what I have to help others.*

*Thank you for all you have given me.*

*Amen.*

*Lesson adapted from the plans on the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Life, Justice and Peace website*