

THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST

Author: Ruth B. Greiner

Illustrator: Frances H. Hertzler

Proofreaders: Audrey Brubaker, Sharon Neal, Dr. Charles Piepgrass, Elinor Rogers

PowerPoint Presentation, Interface and Download: LaRue and Mark Bowser

Typesetting and Layout: Patricia Pope

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Phone: (717) 859-1131 Web: www.biblevisuals.org

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NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Display each illustration where indicated in text, laying volume aside when the story line continues beyond the picture.

Lesson #1

FEEDING FIVE THOUSAND—AND MORE!

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

At the time He fed the 5,000 men, apparently about one-half of the public ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ was past. Yet the Bible records only one instance in that year-and-a-half that the disciples used the name “Lord” when speaking about or to the Lord Jesus. (See Matthew 8:25. That same event is recorded in Mark 4:36-41 and Luke 8:22-25. In those passages the word “Master” is used rather than “Lord.”) It is not entirely clear whether or not it was the disciples who used the name “Lord” in Matthew 13:51.

Others who spoke to the Lord Jesus did call Him Lord. In all probability they used the name simply as a title of respect. They recognized Him as a master. However, the name “Lord” when spoken of the Lord Jesus Christ, actually means *Jehovah*

(a name for God). He is “Emmanuel,” *God with us*.

In the first lesson in this series, the name “Lord” is not used in the Scriptures. In the second lesson, it is used three times. First, Peter calls, “Lord, if it be You. . .” Then he cries, “Lord, save me!” Later his confession that Christ is the Son of the living God, begins, “Lord, to whom shall we go?”

After the transfiguration (the third lesson in this series), the disciples use the term “Lord” with growing frequency. They had begun to understand that He, Jesus Christ, is indeed the Lord.

Let it never be forgotten, whether or not He is so recognized, He is always the Lord (God the Son). Because He *is* Lord, He has the right to be Master

Scripture to be studied: Matthew 14:21-31; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15, 51-66

The aim of the lesson: To help your students understand that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Creator of all things, is able to meet every need—spiritual and physical.

What your students should know: The young boy obediently gave all his lunch to Jesus.

What your students should feel: A desire to be obedient.

What your students should do:

Unsaved: Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Saved: Give themselves entirely to the Lord.

Lesson outline (for the teacher’s and students’ notebooks):

1. Jesus takes the disciples apart to rest (Luke 9:10; Mark 6:30-31).
2. Jesus teaches the crowds that follow Him (Matthew 14:13-14; Mark 6:32-34; Luke 9:11; John 6:1-3).
3. Jesus feeds the multitude with five buns and two fish (Matthew 14:15-19; Mark 6:35-41; Luke 9:12-16; John 6:4-11).
4. Jesus is the Living Bread who gives everlasting life (Matthew 14:19-21; Mark 6:41-44; Luke 9:16-17; John 6:11-15, 51-66).

The verses to be memorized:

. . . *At the name of Jesus every knee should bow . . . and . . . every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* (Philippians 2:10a, 11)

THE LESSON

The Lord Jesus is known by many names. Among them are: Son of Man; the Saviour; the Lamb of God; the Lord; Jesus Christ. Each name has meaning. “Jesus” for example, means *One who saves from sin*. (See Matthew 1:21.) “Christ” means *the promised One [Messiah]*. (See John 1:11; 4:25; 17:3; Luke 24:46.)

In this series we are going to learn the meaning of His name “Lord.” So, in your notebook, at the top of the page, write THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST. Under that, write the memory verses (Philippians 2:10a, 11). Now write:

The “Lord” means *Jehovah* (a name for God).

The Lord Jesus is *God with us*. (See Matthew 1:23.)

Because Jesus is Lord, He has the right to be Master.

As we study the lessons in this series, we shall learn that God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is worthy of our obedience, our gifts, our worship, our service.

For hundreds and hundreds of years people had been waiting for the coming of the Son of God to earth. (See, for example, the promise of His coming in Isaiah 9:6.) Those who studied the Word of God, knew that the One who would come would be a Prophet. (See Deuteronomy 18:15, 18-19.) They knew, also, that He would be a King. (See Jeremiah 23:5; Zechariah 9:9.) Now One had come who did many miracles. Closely the people watched Him, the Lord Jesus Christ. And they listened to His teaching.

1. JESUS TAKES THE DISCIPLES APART TO REST

Luke 9:10; Mark 6:30-31

One day the 12 disciples had returned from a very busy, tiring preaching trip. (See Matthew 10:5-8; Luke 9:1-2.) They wanted to tell Jesus all that had happened. But there were so many people—hundreds, perhaps thousands!—thronging around Jesus, that His disciples had no time even to eat or rest.



Show Illustration #1

Jesus knew what the disciples needed. So He said to them, “Come along to a quiet place where you can rest awhile.”

So Jesus and the twelve disciples got into a boat and started across the Sea (Lake) of Galilee, headed for a quiet place near Bethsaida (of Julias).

2. JESUS TEACHES THE CROWDS THAT FOLLOW HIM

Matthew 14:13-14; Mark 6:32-34; Luke 9:11; John 6:1-3

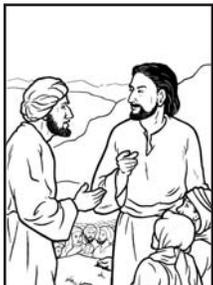
Many people, however, had seen them leave. The news had quickly spread to nearby towns: “Jesus is crossing the lake!” Men and women and boys and girls had seen His power in healing sick people. They wanted to be with Him so they could hear and see more.

Great crowds hurried on foot around the shore of Lake Galilee. And there they were—waiting!—when Jesus and His disciples arrived. Was He angry that they had followed Him? No! He felt sorry for them. They needed someone to lead them and care for them. So Jesus welcomed the people.

But how do you suppose the disciples felt? They could not talk alone to Jesus as they had planned. They could not rest with those crowds around them. And how could they eat?

The people gathered on the hillside near the lake. Then Jesus began to teach them. More and more people came—hundreds of them—men, women and children. Soon there were 1,000, then 2,000, 3,000 thousand. In all there were 5,000 men—besides women and children! They listened as Jesus taught them. Some of the people who had come were sick. Perhaps they came for this very reason, having heard that He healed sick people. And do you know what? Jesus healed them that very day!

All afternoon the people listened. They seemed to forget that it was time to eat. They had never heard anyone as wonderful as Jesus.



Show Illustration #2

Then evening came. The disciples had waited as long as they could. Finally they said to Jesus. “It is very late and this is a lonely place. Send the people to the nearby villages to find food and places to stay for the night.”

But Jesus said, “They do not have to go away. You give them something to eat.”

Philip (one of the disciples) exclaimed, “Two hundred days’ wages would not buy enough bread for all of these people to have even a little to eat!”

Jesus asked the disciples, “How much bread is here? Go and see.”

3. JESUS FEEDS THE MULTITUDE WITH FIVE BUNS AND TWO FISH

Matthew 14:15-19; Mark 6:35-41; Luke 9:12-16; John 6:4-11

The disciples went among the people, looking for food. Returning to Jesus, Andrew alone had good news. But even as he told Jesus about it, he did not seem happy. “There is a boy here who has five buns and two little fish. But what good is that among so many people?”

“Bring them to Me,” Jesus said.

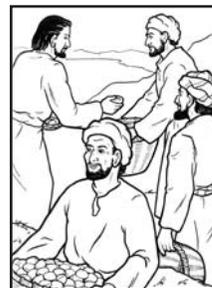


Show Illustration #3

What will Jesus do with my five buns and two fish? that hungry boy wondered. He listened carefully as Christ Jesus instructed the disciples to have the people sit down on the green grass in groups of 50 and 100. He watched closely as Jesus took his lunch, and, looking up to Heaven, thanked God for the buns and the fish. (And, certainly, He thanked His Father for the boy who had given his lunch!)

4. JESUS IS THE LIVING BREAD WHO GIVES EVERLASTING LIFE

Matthew 14:19-21; Mark 6:41-44; Luke 9:16-17; John 6:11-15, 51-66



Show Illustration #4

Then Jesus started breaking the buns and dividing the fish. He gave some to Philip and to Andrew and to each of the other disciples. In turn, the disciples gave food to each person. They returned to Jesus to get more. Back and forth they went until everyone had enough—and more than enough!—to eat.

Then Jesus told the disciples to gather the food that the people had not eaten, so nothing would be wasted. They put it into baskets—1, 2, 3, 4, 5—12 baskets were filled with leftover bread and fish! Think of it: there were twelve baskets left from the lunch of one boy—a boy who had obediently given everything he had to Jesus.

When the people saw the miracle Jesus had done, they exclaimed, “He is the Prophet whom we have been expecting!” Some doubtless remembered the promise that the One who was to come would satisfy the poor with bread. (See Psalm 132:15.)

The crowd was so enthusiastic that they decided to take Jesus by force and make Him King. Knowing this, Jesus immediately left the people and went up into a mountain alone. Long, long afterwards a day would come when He would be King. But before this could happen, He would have to die. He explained this to them the next day, saying, “I am the living bread which came down from Heaven. If any man eat of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”

That He would give His flesh (meaning He would *die*.) disappointed those who expected to make Him their King. They wanted a living King, not a dead one. And, from that time, many who had followed Him turned back. They did not recognize Him as the Lord Jesus Christ, God the Son. So they refused to follow Him.

What about the disciples? Did they realize that Jesus Christ is the Lord? Apparently not at that moment. For we are told they lacked understanding. (See Mark 6:52.)

That He could heal the sick, they knew. That He could feed multitudes, they knew. Apparently they did not yet understand that the Miracle-worker was the Creator. (See John 1:3.) The Creator is the Lord—the Lord Jesus Christ.

What about you? Have you believed in Him, the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ? “He that believeth on Me,” He said, “hath everlasting life” (John 6:48).

If you are already a believer in Christ, will you, like the boy, give everything to Him? How can you do less? He is the Lord!