



## You will need...

- A range of fruit vegetables perhaps onion, garlic, potato, mushroom, apple, bean, tangerine, rice.
- A few items of processed food perhaps jelly and chocolate
- 2 real fishy fish and 5 bread rolls
- Ask a teacher before the assembly if you can give out ordinary bread to children during the assembly to eat.

## The story

Character/Actions	Lines
	Good morning, it is great to be here for this Assembly. My name is X, I'm here from X Church
	I've got a bag of fruit of vegetables here, I wonder if you can tell me, whether each comes from a tree, from a smaller plant, from on the ground or from under the ground?
Hold up an apple, potato, sweetcorn and other seasonal produce. Take answers.	
Hold up some processed food, eg. custard powder, jelly, pasta	
Hold up apple	It can be hard, can't it?! But what we do know is that it comes from plants, or bushes, or trees, or animals because all our food comes from things like that. If you asked a Christian where food comes from, they would tell you that God gives us our food. Of course I think an apple comes from a tree, but as a Christian, I also know that God makes things grow.



Click fingers	<p>God makes trees grow from seeds. God makes the sun shine. God makes food</p> <p>God is in charge of every moment, every raindrop that falls and every seed that grows.</p> <p>If God chose, everything would stop growing immediately.</p>
	<p>I want to tell you a true story that happened to Jesus. In this story we're going to learn something about Jesus and something about food.</p>
	<p>One day, Jesus wanted to be alone with his disciples- his 12 closest friends. He was tired, because everywhere he went crowds followed him. They couldn't get enough of him, so he never had a chance to rest. So Jesus rowed across a lake with his disciples, to be all alone so that they could talk together. To make sure they'd be alone, he rowed across to a desert area where no one lived.</p>
	<p>But as always with Jesus, where he was, others always followed. So when they saw Jesus push off from the beach, they just walked around the lake and were waiting for him when the boat arrived on the other side! The Bible says that there were 5000 men, and a lot of women and children as well. Maybe about 10000 people- that's a football stadium!</p>
	<p>Jesus never ignored people. He was always kind. So he got out, and started to teach the people about God, about who he was and about how to be saved to be with him forever. Jesus just talked and talked, and the people just listened and listened. They loved it.</p>



	<p>But Jesus' friends saw that they had 2 huge problems. It was getting late. Soon it would be dark. No one had eaten anything and they were miles from anywhere. They were in a desert! There was no food anywhere.</p>
	<p>The people were hungry, it was getting late, and there was no food, so, Jesus said to his disciples, "You get them some food"</p> <p>Now the disciples must have thought Jesus was mad. They told Jesus it would cost far more money than they had to feed all these people.</p> <p>So Jesus asked them what they did have. Well they looked, and asked and they searched. And they found some food.</p>
Hold up five bread rolls and two fishy looking fish	They found a boy's packed lunch with 2 small fish and 5 small rolls.
Read Mark 6: 41 and 42  Give out the food to the front row. Say as you do, "It's just normal bread, eat it or hold onto it"	So let's see what Jesus did next.  He prayed, thanking God for the food, and started giving out the food.
	And he kept on going. He gave some to the disciples to give out. In fact, they didn't stop. 5,000 people ate as much food as they could, from that tiny packed lunch.  Wow! Jesus fed thousands of people with just a packed lunch.



<p>You could ask KS2 children: Take answers.</p>	<p>“How do you think Jesus did it?” “Could he have tricked them?”</p>
	<p>Now Jesus didn't cheat and had a secret huge lunch. He couldn't, because 5,000 people were watching Him. There couldn't have been a lorry full of food- it was the desert. He couldn't have fitted dinner for 5000 people in a rowing boat without the disciples noticing. No, Jesus did something that is impossible for me to do, and it's impossible for any person to do.</p>
	<p>Jesus just made food for the crowd out of nothing. Only God can do that. So that day, everyone there realised that Jesus was very special, some worked out that He was God himself. Do you remember I said that Jesus wanted them to understand who he was? I wonder if you've worked out who Jesus is? Has this miracle helped you to answer that question? You can make up your own mind.</p>
	<p>And that wasn't all. Jesus then told his disciples to collect up the leftovers</p>
	<p>Did you notice that the 5,000 people had more than enough to eat? They collected 12 baskets full of leftover bread. That's more bread than Jesus started with! When he had 5 small rolls. That is because Jesus was very kind to them. He wanted to make sure that everyone had enough to eat.</p>
	<p>Jesus was kind by giving more food than they needed. Do you remember that I said Jesus wanted us to understand something about food? That it's kind when someone gives us food. It was kind for Jesus to feed all those people. It's kind when anyone gives us food to eat.</p>



	<p>God is still kind to us in exactly the same way. We have more than enough food to eat. God gives us all the food we need.</p>
	<p>We should all make sure that we thank the people who give us our food.</p> <p>So let's make sure we thank the person who gives us each meal- out Mum, or Dad, or the team in the kitchen at your school.</p> <p>And there will be some foods that we don't like as much. Please remember that someone made that food for you because they love you, and many people don't have any food.</p>
	<p>I'm going to say a prayer now.</p> <p>If you don't want to pray, that's fine, just sit quietly and think about what you have heard this morning.</p> <p>I close my eyes and put my hands together to help me to be still.</p>
	<p>Dear Father in Heaven, Thank you for giving all of us enough food. Thank you that we have food every day, and it's such good food. Please help us to enjoy our food, to remember those who have less. Thank you.</p> <p>Amen</p>
Say together	<p>Perhaps we could practise saying together what we could say to others today, "Thank you for my food and for caring for me"</p>