

Encore 2026 – Monologue Level 1

The Good, Good Meal

(Based on Mark 6:30-44)

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NOTE:

This is a wonderful retelling of the loaves and fishes' story from the Gospel of Mark Try to find different characterizations/voices for the characters of Jesus, the disciples, and even the little boy.

Blocking (where you stand when you speak as each character) can also help identify these characters as separate people.

Storyteller:

Jesus loved to share– absolutely loved it.

And one day he was sharing stories with a big crowd of people – ten thousand people!

And he kept on telling stories all day, so it was getting a little late, and the people were getting a lot hungry.

Well, Jesus noticed they were getting hungry– he notices these things– so he asked his close friends, his disciples, “Hey, did you guys bring any food?”

The disciples replied, “Yeah. Of course we brought food— for ourselves!”

So, Jesus asked, “Well, do you have any you can spare?”

The disciples replied, “Uh—they should have thought ahead.”

Then Jesus said, “Yeah, but you thought ahead, so you have food you can share.

Disciples, “Yes, but there isn’t enough.”

Jesus, “Yes, but just share what you have and let’s see what happens.”

Disciples, “But there literally isn’t enough. People are gonna get left out. And then they’re gonna get mad.”

Well, a little boy overheard their conversation and said, “I brought some food. They can have mine.”

The disciples rolled their eyes. “Who can have yours?” The boy responded. “Anyone. Everyone.”

“Everyone?” The disciples tried not to laugh– they didn’t want to hurt the kid’s feelings and Jesus was standing right there. But they did laugh. Cuz it was funny.

I mean, this kid didn't have a clue. His one lunch – five loaves of bread and two dried fish– that's gonna maybe feed– what? ten people? Maybe?

Yeah, that's real helpful. Ten people out of ten thousand. Thanks, kid.

Next time do your math and try to grasp the enormity of the problem and the complexity of the solution.

And as a side note– who eats five loaves of bread for lunch? Cut back on the carbs, kid.

Well, Jesus responded to the little boy and said, "Thank you."

So, the boy handed Jesus his lunch. And Jesus broke the bread and prayed – "Father, thank you. For all the good gifts you give. Help us give just as you have given to us."

Then Jesus took the two small, dried fish and pulled off what little meat there was and started passing out the bread and the fish. Little chunks of bread and even littler hunks of fish.

The disciples just shook their heads. What a lunch.

The first person to receive some food was a woman. She took what Jesus gave her, split hers in half and shared it with a girl next to her, who shared half of hers with the person next to her and so on and so on.

People kept on sharing.

Ten people had enough food.

Then twenty.

Then thirty.

The food should have run out. But it didn't.

Each time a person shared, it seemed as if the food was multiplying! Somehow there was enough.

More than enough! All 10,000 people got lunch! All of them.

Even the disciples.

And there were leftovers!

That's... good! It's a gift. From God. Through this kid.

No wonder Jesus loves sharing!