

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

JESUS CAN DO

ANYTHING.

YOU ARE THE GOD
WHO PERFORMS
MIRACLES; YOU
DISPLAY YOUR
POWER AMONG
THE PEOPLES.

PSALMS 77:14 (NIV)



Have you all been enjoying the Miraculous Marine Institute so far? I hope so. I truly love it here. There's something just so majestic and wondrous about the ocean. Did you know that humans have only explored five percent of the world's oceans? That means 95% of the ocean is still a big mystery—who knows what other amazing creations from God are waiting to be discovered? It could be anything because God can do impossibly big things.

Speaking of which, let me share with you one of my favorite stories about a time when Jesus did the impossible. What's that called again? That's right, a miracle. Let's dive right in.

Jesus had been walking around with his disciples, from town to town, teaching people about God and how much He loves them. He had also been doing miracles everywhere. In fact, he had just recently been teaching a large crowd of people, and it was getting late, and the crowd was hungry. So Jesus multiplied five loaves of bread and two fish, so there was enough bread and fish to feed the crowd—over 5,000 people. Miraculous, you say? You'd be right!

Well, this is starting to sound familiar. Great crowds of people? Jesus performing miracles and teaching the people who gathered there? People were hungry, but there wasn't enough food. Jesus had fed a crowd just like this one with five loaves and two fish not that long ago. It was happening again. They had seven loaves of bread and a few small fish this time. Just like last time, this would not be enough food to feed thousands of people.

Jesus gave thanks to God and began distributing the food. From a few small fish and seven loaves of bread, Jesus fed over four thousand people until they were so full there were leftovers. Jesus used what was available and turned it into something miraculous. Everyone else thought the food was not enough, but Jesus gave everyone more than enough.

Miracles are not things that only happened in the past while Jesus was on the earth. Miracles happen every day, in big and small ways. Sometimes we don't see it because we're not paying attention, or we're too busy being worried and afraid to notice that God is still doing miracles. The next time you have a situation, why not ask Jesus for a miracle? It may not appear in the way you'd expect, but we can be sure Jesus can do anything!

Psalm 37:1-11 reminds us to wait on God and not to be envious or worried or compare ourselves to what others are doing or how their lives seem to be going. We should trust in God and stay focused on Jesus, even when life is difficult and we can't see how things will turn out. Jesus will always be with us, and Jesus

Sometimes, we might wonder why God doesn't just step in and make everything in our world perfect. There would be no more violence, hate, or disasters. All the bad guys would go away, so we can have peace and happiness forever.

We have to remember that even though Jesus can do anything, he doesn't just do anything. There is a plan for all of us that we don't fully know, and we have to trust that what he sees is a much bigger picture than the one we can see.

Just like the psalmist says in this passage, we can "be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him." Even though we might see things that aren't so great happening around us, we can continue to pray and put our hope in the one who is greater than everything.

Jesus can do anything!

Scripture/application

- What concern did Jesus have for the people in the crowd?
- How did the disciples react to Jesus' suggestion that they feed the crowd?
- What miracles did Jesus perform in today's Bible story?
- Read Psalm 37:7.
 - In what ways do you need to wait and be patient for God's miracles?
- Describe a time when Jesus gave you more than you even knew to ask for.
- How can you be sure Jesus still does miracles today?
- Who is someone you know that might need a miracle?
- What could you do to be a part of that miracle?

Worship

"I KNOW YOU CAN"

PLANETSHAKERS

"HE STILL DOES (MIRACLES)"

HAWK NELSON

"GOD CAN DO ANYTHING"

DOUG HORLEY

Memorize



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AMONG THE PEOPLES."

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Fin-tastic Big Idea

Fish come in all shapes, sizes, colors, and abilities. Some are very fast, some have great memories, some can change color, and some can even feel! We can really see God's creativity when we look at all the different species of fish out there. Take your fin-tastic Big Idea fish and place it somewhere you can be reminded of Jesus' miracles and that Jesus can do anything!

For this craft, you will need square paper, scissors, glue, and wiggle eyes. Scan QR code for instructions then model the fish project for the kids. Then, each of them will be handed a piece of square origami paper to make their own fish, and the Big Idea will be written on it somewhere!



Fish And Bread Jewelry

Give each kid a pipe cleaner and seven pieces of uncooked penne pasta (to represent loaves of bread). Have kids thread the penne through the pipe cleaner. Once finished, show them how to twist the ends together to secure the penne. Then twist the tips of the pipe cleaner together to form a fish tail. Attach a length of string for kids to wear as a necklace. Alternatively, cut out three small fish from colored card stock, punch a hole in the fish, and bead them through with the penne. Have kids wear it around their wrist as a bracelet. Scan QR code to see a worked example.

Now we have something to wear daily so we never forget that Jesus can do anything.

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