



WHY DOESN'T THIS BOY EAT HIS MEAL?

Slide 1

We continue our discovery of the gospel; **Slide 2** what Jesus does **Slide 3**, what he says but also **Slide 4** what the people and **Slide 5** children who meet him do. Today, Françoise will take us on a very special adventure. **Slide 6** Imagine a boy who is in the middle of a huge **Slide 7** crowd of 15,000, maybe 20,000 people in full campaign. **Slide 8** But what is he doing here? **Slide 9** What is he interested in? **Slide 10** He took his meal with him; he definitely planned to spend the whole day with them; **Slide 11** what for? Let's listen to this story that you **Slide 12** can find in chapter 6 of the Gospel of John. Then you can answer my question: **Slide 13** What can I give to Jesus?

Slide 14 WHAT WILL HE GIVE TO JESUS?

Slide 15 Imagine these people talking:

Slide 16 - Oh! Jesus and his disciples are in a boat!

- Yes! We have recognized them!

Slide 17 - They're sailing across the lake. **Slide 18** Let's go! By following the shore, we will find them!

Slide 19 - We're coming with you, we love to hear him so much!

The news spread **Slide 20** to all the surrounding villages and towns. The old, the young, the children, sick people, parents, everyone sets out. They leave the house, they leave their work in the fields and all together they go. **Slide 21** A young boy joins them, he wants to know that Jesus who works miracles, who heals the sick.

Slide 22 He has his picnic, five barley buns and two grilled fish.

Slide 23 When Jesus lands on the shore, what does he see? A huge crowd that is there and waiting. All eyes are on him. There are **Slide 24** 5,000 men there, probably as many women and even more children. If we try to add up, how many people are there? **Slide 25** 15,000 or more?

Slide 26 But Jesus and his disciples are tired, they have come there to rest a little and now they are facing this multitude of people. **Slide 27** Will Jesus send them away? **Slide 28** Ignore them? **Slide 29** hide? No! **Slide 30** He is moved by compassion, he sees them as a flock of sheep without a shepherd.

Nobody to take care of them, do them good, care for them, guide them. **Slide 31** He sits down and talks to them, he speaks good words to them, he encourages them; he teaches them much about the love of God and **Slide 32** he heals the sick. **Slide 33** Everybody listens to him carefully, even the children; they drink his words. And our

young boy who is there receives these words in his heart, he even forgets about his snack.

No one has seen time go by but **Slide 34** the day is fading and everyone is hungry now, the little ones like the grown-ups. **Slide 35** The disciples approach Jesus:

- We are in an isolated place and it is getting late, **Slide 36** dismiss all these people let them go to the villages and buy something to eat.

Slide 37 - They do not need to go away, Jesus answers them, **Slide 38** YOU are going to feed them.

Slide 39 - How can we feed them!

The disciples no longer know what to think; how can all this crowd be fed? But it's impossible!

Slide 40 - Where do you want us to go and get food for all this crowd, answers Philippe, even if we wanted to give everyone a small piece of bread, **Slide 41** it would take a lot of money, almost a year's salary, and we have nothing!

Slide 42 Our young boy approaches André. Did he hear the conversation? In any case, this food problem does not concern him, he has his meal, he can eat his loaves and his fish and all is well for him. But no, he doesn't want to eat when the others have nothing.

- Here, he says to Andrew, **Slide 43** it is for Jesus.

Slide 44 Andrew is rather perplexed, he approaches Jesus:

Slide 45 - There is a boy here who has **Slide 46** five loaves of bread and two little fish but what can we do with it for all these people?

It is as if Andrew said to Jesus:

- It is completely ridiculous, this young boy is very thoughtful but he'd better eat his meal himself.

Jesus says to his disciples:

Slide 47 - Make all these people sit on the grass in rows of 50 and 100!

Make them sit down! But frankly, shouldn't we rather send them home right away? The disciples no longer understand anything, **Slide 48** but they obey.

Slide 49 And the young boy? Well, now he's like everyone else, he's got nothing to eat. He doesn't know who is going to eat his picnic, maybe Jesus or a disciple, he waits quietly.

Slide 50 Everyone settles in the grass. You imagine those thousands of people sitting there waiting. But they what are waiting for? They don't know, they did what Jesus said, that's all.

Slide 51 Jesus takes the young boy's five buns and two fish. Nobody moves.

He lifts his eyes skyward and aloud, **Slide 52** he thanks God for this food. We hear his prayer of blessing.

Then he divides the loaves and the fish into pieces and **Slide 53** gives a few pieces to each of his disciples. No! Not for them to eat them because Jesus said to them:

Slide 54 - Distribute them to all these people.

And here are the disciples who begin to give a piece of bread and a piece of fish to one, a piece of bread and fish to another, then to another. What's going on? **Slide 55** As they distribute them they have pieces in their

hands over and over again. This food multiplies. **Slide 56** They pass through the ranks and everyone has enough to eat.

What about our young boy? Well, **Slide 57** he too eats as much as he wants, like the others, but t he couldn't imagine for a moment that his picnic **Slide 58** put in Jesus' hands could be used to feed all that crowd.

When they had all finished eating, Jesus said to his disciples:

Slide 59 - Pick up the pieces that remain, so that nothing is wasted.

Do you know how many baskets they filled with the remaining pieces of bread and fish?

Slide 60 Not one basket, **Slide 61** not two, **Slide 62** nor three, but **Slide 63** twelve large baskets.

Faced with this miracle, people exclaim:

Slide 64 - There is no doubt; Jesus is truly the one that God had promised to send, the one that the prophets had announced.

Jesus asks his disciples **Slide 65** to get back into the boat to cross the lake. Meanwhile, **Slide 66** he will dismiss the crowd.

Slide 67 During our next talk, we will find them during this crossing on the lake.

Slide 68 1, 2 3, 4 AND YOU AND ME!

*Do you remember the question? **Slide 69** What can I give to Jesus? It may be the question you ask yourself.*

*Jesus is no longer on earth, he is in heaven, so what do you do? **Slide 70** Well, like this young boy. When you learn about a difficult situation, from friends, from people near you or far away who do not have what is necessary for their life, food, clothing by example and YOU have all you need, **Slide 71** then share, **Slide 72** give wholeheartedly, **Slide 73** with joy, out of **Slide 74** love for this person but also out of love **Slide 75** for the Lord.*

*It may be **Slide 76** little to you and in the eyes of others, but **Slide 77** ask Jesus to bless him and he will multiply it beyond what you can imagine. He still works miracles today.*

*Listen to what he tells us, it will encourage you: **Slide 78** All that you do, all that you give, even to the smallest, then, you do it to me.*

Slide 79 4, 3, 2, 1 AND WE PARENTS!

*Our children are not too small **Slide 80** to learn to give, to share, not only as **Slide 81** a family, with relatives, but also more broadly with others. Encourage them to give to those who need, need affection, attention, help, money, food, clothes.*

*Jesus tells us that there is joy in giving, so why **Slide 82** wouldn't they taste the joy **Slide 83** of giving?*

Giving to others, for us, is like giving to Jesus.

Slide 84