

## **Puppet Show for Hunger Meal**

(written by Krista Lovell, Farmville Presbyterian Church, Virginia)

**SCENE 1:** Jesus Feeds 5000 (based on John 6:3-13)

Characters: Gramps  
Granny (with large picnic basket)  
Jesus  
Andrew  
Faith (a girl with a small lunch bag)  
Narrator

**Setting:** Jesus and Andrew are talking on one side of the stage. Gramps, Granny and Faith are on the opposite side.

**Narrator:** (from offstage) As Jesus went across Lake Galilee, a large crowd followed him, because they had seen his miracles of healing the sick. Jesus went up a hill and sat down with his disciples. Jesus looked around and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, so he asked his disciples how they could feed all the people. Knowing that they did not have enough money to feed all the people on the hillside that day, the disciples began asking the people to share their food with the crowd.

(Andrew leaves Jesus and goes over to Granny and pantomimes asking her for food. Granny shakes her head No and Andrew moves back to Jesus)

**Granny:** Did you hear what that young man just asked us?

**Gramps:** Now Granny, you know that I don't hear so good these days.

**Granny:** Well, let me tell you! That young man, I think that he's a friend of Jesus, just came up **and** asked if we would share our lunch with all these people!

**Gramps:** (chuckles) He must have seen you this morning packing all that food! You know you packed enough for 5000 people in that basket. Who did you think was going to join us? The entire town!

**Granny:** Now get on Gramps. You never know how much food you'll need for an outing such as this. I didn't know how long we'd be sitting on this hillside. You know me, always prepared.

**Gramps:** Well, did you tell the nice young man that we could share some of our food?

**Granny:** Have you gone mad? If I give our food away, then I might not have enough for us. After all, you don't know how long we'll be sitting here. Besides, why didn't all these people plan their lunch like I did. Didn't they know that they would get hungry? I just can't be responsible for everyone!

**Gramps:** Well, maybe you're right. Everyone has to take care of themselves.

**Faith:** Excuse me, ma'am. Did I hear you say that Jesus was looking for food to share?

**Granny:** Yes, they are asking well-prepared people to give up their own food to take care of the people who did not look ahead and prepare their own lunch for themselves.

**Faith:** Well, I don't have much, but my mom did packed me five loaves of barley bread and two fish. Do you think Jesus would want that?

**Granny:** Now that's a nice thought dear but your mom packed that lunch for you. She wouldn't want you to be hungry because you gave your food away. Now why don't you sit down here with us and I'll make sure those young men with Jesus don't bother you anymore.

**Faith:** Thank you ma'am, but I think that I'll offer what I can to Jesus. I'm sure I won't go hungry, Jesus will be fair.

**Gramps:** I think that's a very nice thought young lady. Why don't you take my share of this lunch with you. Every little bit will help.

**Granny:** Oh no you don't Gramps. You're not going to give my good food away.

**Faith:** Excuse me, I think I'll go find that man that was asking for food.

(Faith goes over to Andrew and offers him her lunch. Andrew takes Faith to Jesus).

**Narrator:** Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to God, and distributed it to the people who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish, and they all had as much as they wanted.

## SCENE 2r: 2 Cents-a-Meal Goes a Long Way

**Characters:** Beauregard (a young boy)

Faith (a young girl)

**Props:** a jar of pennies off to the side

**Setting:** Faith enters humming a tune. Beauregard enters right behind her.

**Beauregard:** Hey Faith, you want to go to McDonald's with me? They're having a "2 Quarter-Pounders for 2 Bucks" sale and I just happen to have two bucks! I'll even treat you if you'll spring for the french fries.

**Faith:** I'd love to go Beauregard, but I don't know if I have enough money. Here, Let me check.  
(Faith looks down as if she's searching for money in a drawer or purse)

**Beauregard:** Hey Faith, here's a whole jar full of money!

**Faith:** Naw, that's my 2-cents-a-meal money.

**Beauregard:** You know where you can get a meal for 2 cents?

**Faith:** Beauregard, that's my offering for church. We have a special offering that we take up once a quarter to help fight world hunger. We call it 2-cents-a-meal because we are supposed to put two pennies in the jar for each meal we eat. I keep that jar out on the counter so it will remind me to help contribute to those who don't have enough to eat.

**Beauregard:** But I'm one of those who doesn't have enough to eat. And if you don't find any more money, what's it gonna hurt if you take some of those pennies. It's not like anybody is actually counting how much you give.

**Faith:** I'm counting! Besides, that's my small way of helping. Two center per meal is not very much, but when my two cents is added to someone else's two cents and that is added to someone else's two cents, then it can really make a difference.

**Beauregard:** Yeah, like adding your money to mine so that we can go to McDonald's! I'm hungry.

**Faith:** Beauregard, when did you last eat?

**Beauregard:** About....uh....15...no 20 minutes ago. Hey, no wonder I'm hungry all I had was two candy bars a whole 20 minutes ago!

**Faith:** Beauregard, you ate two candy bars just 20 minutes ago and you're hungry again for a full meal at McDonalds? Did you know that in one year alone, about 30 million people die from starvation? That's as many people as live in New York City, London and Tokyo combined! And you're worried about one lunch at McDonalds!

**Beauregard:** Thirty million people you say?

**Faith:** Thirty million people.

**Beauregard:** Well, you little jar of pennies isn't going to save 30 million people you know.

**Faith:** No, my little jar of pennies won't, but last year the 2-Cents-a-Meal offering in our Presbytery amounted to over \$115,000! Now that's enough to help a few people who are hungry. And besides, every little bit helps even two pennies a meal.

**Beauregard:** Well, I guess that means no McDonalds for lunch.

**Faith:** I've got a good idea. Why don't I make us a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and you donate your two bucks for the 2-Cents-a-Meal offering?

**Beauregard:** Two bucks, not let me see....at 2-cents-per-meal, 2 dollars would account for 100 meals and that would take me...

**Faith:** If you ate 3 meals a day, that would amount to 33 and 1/3 days worth.

**Beauregard:** Three meals a day? Who eats three meals a day? Try eight meals a day.

**Faith:** Oh Beauregard, what am I going to do with you?

(Both exit)

SCENE 3r: Collecting Food

Characters: Beauregard

**Faith**

Gramps

**Granny**

Props: Grocery bag

Can of food (empty will be more manageable)

Setting: Faith is humming to herself as Beauregard enters.

**Faith:** Hi Beauregard, Would you like to come along and help me with this month's canned food drive?

**Beauregard:** Do we get food to eat?

**Faith:** Sure, we will be collecting canned and boxed foods for our local food bank distribution.

**Beauregard:** No, I asked if WE get food to eat.

**Faith:** Oh, no Beauregard, this is collecting food for the hungry.

**Beauregard:** But I'm hungry.

**Faith:** Beauregard, you're always hungry! But seriously, don't you know that every Saturday, our local food bank hands out over 140 bags of groceries to people in our community that don't have enough to eat?

**Beauregard:** 140 bags! Do you have to collect that much? And besides, don't these people have food stamps or something to buy their groceries with like everybody else?

**Faith:** Sure, some of them do get food stamps, but food stamps don't go very far when you have a whole family to feed.

**Beauregard:** 140 bags. That sure is a lot of food. How much are you going to collect today?

**Faith:** Well, I thought that I would just go door to door until I had 2 or 3 bags full of food. I know it's not much, but it's the least I can do. Look, I already started the first bag with a contribution of my own.

**Beauregard:** Soup, green beans, dried beans, carrots...wow, you sure do have a lot of cans in there.

**Faith:** Well, I want to make a difference in the world and what better place to start than in my own community. Now, come on if you want to help.

**Beauregard:** Count me in, I can sniff out food from a mile away.

*(Faith and Beauregard go to Granny's house)*

*(Doorbell rings and Granny appears)*

**Granny:** Well, hello kids. What can I do for you today?

**Faith:** We are going around the neighborhood asking people to donate canned goods to our local food bank ministry. Would you be willing to donate a few cans?

**Granny:** Food for the food bank you say? Well, let's see...I have some old dented cans of turnip greens that I don't really like they were on sale in the "Reject bin" and I picked them up....sure, you can have them.

*(Granny disappears to get cans)*

**Beauregard:** Turnip greens! Rejects! Hey, this is not much fun.

**Faith:** Maybe we'll do better at the next house.

*(Granny returns)*

**Granny:** Here's one can. They don't need all that much, so you can give them this one. I'm using the others to hold down the newspaper that the paperboy got wet this morning. I don't know why he can't throw it on the porch instead of the mud puddle.

**Faith:** Well...uh...thank you. We'll add it to the rest.

**Granny:** Yes, you do that and I hope that they appreciate the free handout. I can't believe that they have a child out collecting food! *(Her voice trails off and Granny disappears)*

**Beauregard:** Wow, I didn't know that people could be so insensitive. Why, she didn't even care about the people that she was helping. They didn't ask to be hungry and I'm sure that they are not proud of it. One can of dented greens...

**Faith:** Beauregard, we can't judge people and their motives, we just have to move on and do the best we can. Here's another house, let's try it.

*(doorbell rings and Gramps appears)*

**Gramps:** Well, look who's on my doorstep. Why, it's a pretty little girl and a very important looking young man.

**Beauregard:** Yes sir, and we are on a very important mission. We are here collecting canned food for the

local food bank ministry and would like to add you donation to our bag.

**Gramps:** What a wonderful ministry that two such fine looking missionaries would be involved in! As it so happens, I just came home from the grocery store and my pantry is too full to hold it all. Let me go and see what I can find that the people would enjoy eating (Gramps disappears)

**Beauregard:** See Faith, it just takes the right kind of approach to get people to see the need.

**Faith:** Maybe it just takes the right kind of people.

**Beauregard:** Well, it helps to notice what kind of “Upstanding young people” such as ourselves are doing the asking too!

**Faith:** Oh Beauregard, give it a break.

(Gramps returns with a full grocery bag)

**Gramps:** Here you go. I couldn’t decide which they would like better, so I just decided to fill up a bag of my favorites. Do you think that would be okay?

**Beauregard:** I think that would be great! The food bank will be excited to see so many choice selections. And look Faith, the cans aren’t even dented!

**Gramps:** What?

**Faith:** Never mind. Thank you sir for being so generous.

**Gramps:** Maybe I could do more.

**Beauregard:** All right! Two bags! And at my first house.

**Gramps:** Actually, I was thinking that I could help you take this bag to the food bank and even help with the distribution.

**Faith:** That would be great, they are always needing extra Baggers and Carriers to help on Saturdays. And we would love you help with this heavy bag.

**Gramps:** It’s settle then. Let me get my coat.

**Beauregard:** Say Faith, this has turned out to be a wonderful day. We’re helping to fight hunger in our community and meeting some pretty terrific people in the process.

(All exit together)

**SONG:** Oh Lord, I Thank You.

**SCENE 4:** Animals can make a difference

Characters: Pig, Cow, Sheep, Fish, Rabbit

Setting: The pig enters first and is joined by the other animals one by one as their lines come up.

Pig: You can make a difference,  
They told me to say,  
So off to Mexico  
I went one day.

And settled there  
in a brand new home.  
With lots of mud  
for me to roam.

My little piglets  
were born down there.  
All pink and wrinkled  
with not much hair.

Up for adoption  
my piglets all went,  
To wait for the day  
when they all could be sent.

They were raised by a youth club  
until full grown,  
Sows and boars  
having families of their own.

You can make a difference  
you'll hear me say  
Feeding hungry people  
a thousand miles away.

Cow: You can make a difference  
I'm here to tell  
Giving cows like me  
with milk to sell.

We graze and graze  
and get real fat,  
With plenty of milk  
now how about that!

So I moved away  
to Cameroon  
Where my little calf  
would be coming soon.

For each new spring  
I've a calf to share.  
And now and again  
I've even a pair.

The cycle goes on  
for now you see  
Calves grow up  
into cows like me.

Giving milk and beef  
for the hungry to eat,  
makes a big difference  
for the ones we meet.

You can make a difference,  
you'll hear me say,  
Feeding hungry people,  
a thousand miles away.

**Sheep:**

You can make a difference  
they tell us sheep,  
Making wool blankets  
so all can sleep.

So off to the mountains  
I went one day,  
To graze and grow  
while my little ones play.

My lambs grow quickly  
and outgrow me,  
With nice thick coats  
for all to see.

One lamb's wool  
goes a long, long way  
Making several ponchos  
for a cold winter's day.

And as for me,  
well I feel real proud.  
So I'll stand up tall  
and BA-AH real loud.

You can make a difference,  
You'll hear me say  
Feeding hungry people  
A thousand miles away.

**Fish:**

You can make a difference  
swimming here and there.  
Stocking ponds and rivers  
for people who care.

All my little fishies  
swim to and fro  
Laughing and playing  
and starting to grow.

Looking for some minnows  
Or maybe plant food  
Going off to school  
in a great big brood.

Feeding lots of hungry fook  
is what we do best  
Giving them nutrition  
for work and play and rest.

You can make a difference  
you'll hear me say  
Helping hungry people  
a thousand miles away.

**Rabbit:**

You can make a difference  
they want me to tell  
Selling pelts for fur coats  
it works quite well.

Hipping and hopping  
and wiggling our nose

Making baby bunnies  
for market we suppose.

It only takes us ten weeks  
to grow up big and strong  
So we can have our own kids  
in not so very long.

Filling up the hutches  
with lots of little ones  
So there'll be lots of fur  
when market time comes.

Bringing hope to hungry folk  
that's what it's all about  
And we're just glad to be a part  
of many helping out.

You can make a difference  
you'll hear me say  
Helping feed the hungry

a thousand miles away.

**All:** A circle full of animals  
dance around the earth  
Bringing hope and help to all  
with joyous smiles and mirth.

A circle full of animals  
giving all they can  
Helping feed the hungry  
every woman, child, and man.

A herd-full, a pen-full  
an ark-full at best  
Giving up their very lives  
with energy and zest.

You can make a difference,  
we're all here to say  
Helping hungry people  
a thousand miles away.  
RAP: (to Deck the Halls)

Serving God is a snap \* \*  
Serving God is a snap \* \*  
There's really nothing to it,  
Even we can do it.  
Serving God is a snap \* \*  
Yes, serving God is a snap \* \*

There are people in the land who need a helping hand  
Jesus said to Help them that was his command.

(Sing) Feed the hungry, clothe the naked  
Fa-la-la-la-la-, la-la-la-la

Picking up the canned goods, packing up the food,  
Helping out the hungry is what we gotta do.

Trying very hard to get everything done,  
makes us feel good to serve God's Son.

Serving God is a snap \* \*  
Serving God is a snap \* \*  
There's really nothing to it,  
Even we can do it.  
Serving God is a snap \* \*  
Yes, serving God is a snap \* \*

Serving God is easy, of that there is no doubt,

And when we save our pennies, it's the poor we're helping out.

So when we save just 2-cents-a meal,  
Add it all together and we've got a great deal!

Your cents, my cents, put them all together,  
We can make our world a whole lot better.

So save those pennies and don't get bored,  
Cause when you save, you're serving the Lord!

Serving God is a snap \* \*  
Serving God is a snap \* \*  
There's really nothing to it,  
Even we can do it.  
Serving God is a snap \* \*  
Yes, serving God is a snap \* \*

Some raise cattle or oxen or sheep  
To give to people they'll never ever meet.

Eggs from the chickens and milk from the goats,  
Nice fluffy outfits from the ram's old coat.

Fish that swim in the pond all day,  
Bees making honey that sure will pay.

Animals helping any way they can,  
People to survive, every woman and man.

What can we do? You might well ask.  
**JUST LEARN OUR SONG WILL BE YOUR FIST TASK.**

Serving God is a snap \* \*  
Serving God is a snap \* \*  
There's really nothing to it,  
Even we can do it.  
Serving God is a snap \* \*  
Yes, serving God is a snap \* \*

Yes, serving God is a \* \* Snap!

\* denotes the snap of your fingers