

SUMMERTIME FAMILY PICNIC

CHOOSE A NIGHT WITH CLEAR SKIES TO ENJOY THE OUTDOORS. WHILE PICNICS CAN BE FUN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY, SUMMER EVENINGS CAN PROVIDE REPRIEVE FROM HEAT AND SUN. GRAB A BLANKET, A PICNIC BASKET, AND PACK SOME FOOD ALONG WITH A COOLER OF BEVERAGES. ENLIST THE HELP OF EACH FAMILY MEMBER IN GATHERING SUPPLIES AND PREPARING A MEAL.

TO BEGIN YOUR PICNIC, PRAY TOGETHER. TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THANK GOD FOR THE GIFT OF HEALTHY FOOD, THE BEAUTY OF CREATION, AND THE JOY OF FAMILY. BRING ALONG A CHILDREN'S BIBLE AND SHARE SCRIPTURE STORIES TOGETHER AFTER ENJOYING YOUR MEAL. PLAN SOME FUN GAMES AND ACTIVITIES TO DO AS A FAMILY WHILE ON YOUR PICNIC!



PICNIC PLANNING LIST

WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

FOOD AND DRINKS FOR THE PICNIC

FUN AND GAMES!

ACTIVITIES DURING THE PICNIC



Jesus and the Great Picnic: Feeding 5,000 People!

Matthew 14:13-21

When Jesus heard news about John, he left there in a boat and went to a place to be by himself. The people heard about it, and so they left their towns and followed him by land. Jesus got out of the boat, and when he saw the large crowd, his heart was filled with pity for them, and he healed their sick.

That evening his disciples came to him and said, “It is already very late, and this is a lonely place. Send the people away and let them go to the villages and buy food for themselves.”

“They don’t have to leave,” answered Jesus. “You yourselves give them something to eat!” “All we have here are five loaves of bread and two fish,” they replied. “Then bring them here to me,” Jesus said.



He invited the people to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, looked up to heaven, and gave thanks to God. He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.



Everyone ate and had enough. Then the disciples took up twelve baskets full of what was left over. The number of men who ate was about five thousand, plus many more women and children.



**GOD, THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO
GATHER OUTDOORS, TO CELEBRATE THE JOYS OF
YOUR CREATION: THE FRESH AIR, THE COLORFUL
TREES, THE TASTY FOOD, OUR FRIENDLY
COMPANIONS. BLESS THIS MEAL AND OUR TIME
TOGETHER. TEACH US AGAIN, THIS DAY, TO
ACCEPT YOUR GIFTS WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS.**

AMEN!

