

Hunger is More Than a Word

It started with chapel...for each grade level, I set out two houses. With one, we emptied a grocery bag and counted 10 items! With the other home, the grocery bag was empty...NO FOOD. There was no food in that house. In my pre-K class we looked at the word, "hunger"...looked at the letters and realized it was not just a word, but a problem. Children even need food to sleep!

In each class, I asked how could we help the house with NO FOOD, find food. They knew! Share. Move some food over from one house to the next. And we did. Depending on the age, some were able to come and make their own choice of which food item to share.

In the 3's and 4's, we read the Feeding of the Five Thousand. Jesus wanted people's tummy's to be full. Jesus wanted to help the people solve their hunger problem.

We can do that now!

So...the teachers followed up...and boy did they follow up. Pictures from chapel, a note home...one Pre-K teacher printed off black and white pictures of food. The children had to color 5 choices, cut them out, and glue them on the grocery bag. Their homework for the weekend was to go to the store and shop for the items they chose. The delight on their faces as they carried "their" bag to the donation bin was palpable! I just talked to a mommy of a sick little boy. Bradley's home from school, but can't wait to get back to school to bring his bag FULL of FOOD!

So much participation, but here are a few highlights: one mommy brought in a bag of food each day her child attended school. Another mommy brought in 3 shipping boxes of diapers. And yet, another mommy *bought and brought* to Shepherd of the Hills—500 pounds of food so we could meet our goal! She will continue to participate in our weekly food drive by sending in food for all the children in her son's class to take one by one to the food bin.

The result...as you know...3,709 lbs. of food, 2558 diapers, and 74 boxes of wipes!

I asked each class to go over and see how much food was actually given to the house with NO FOOD. They were amazed! We helped the house with NO FOOD.

Amen and amen!

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