

Buried treasure

'A man digging in a field found buried treasure. He was very excited. But he did not own the land, so he covered the treasure with soil. He went away and sold everything he had. Then he bought the land, and the treasure was his.'

'Make sure that God's Kingdom is yours!'



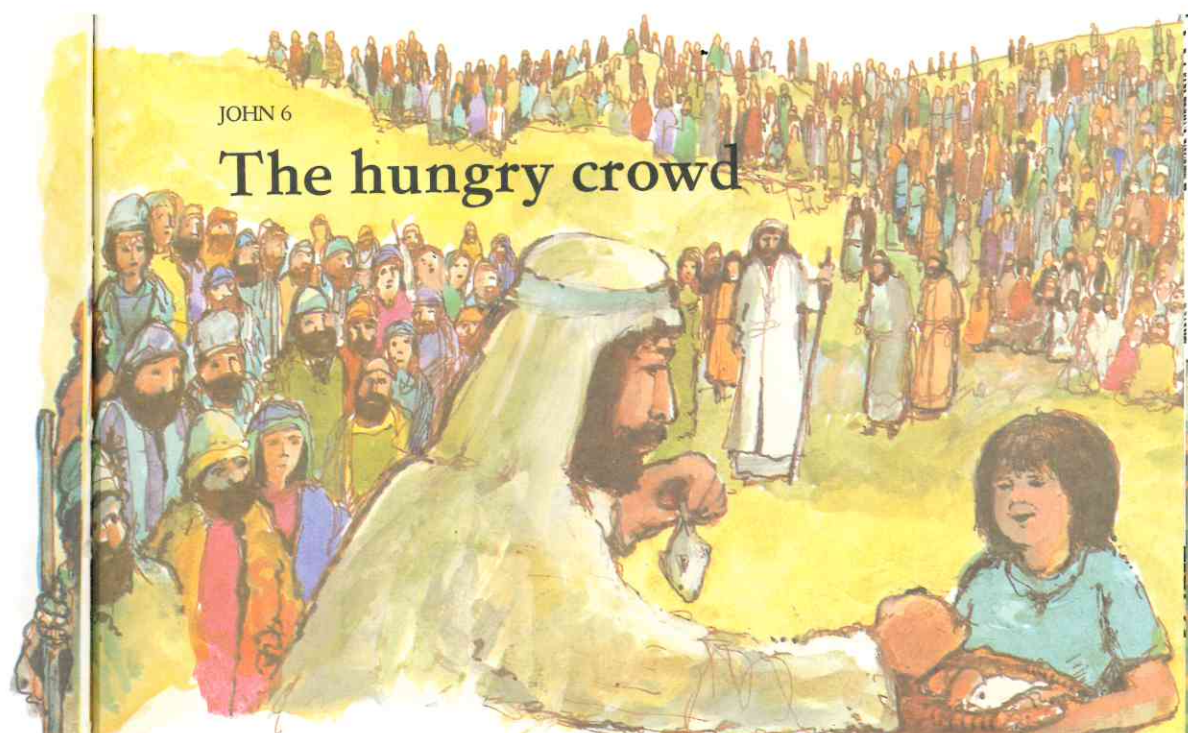
The pearl

'There was a merchant who bought and sold pearls. A man came to him one day with the finest pearl the merchant had ever seen—it was so big, and so beautiful. The merchant knew he would never be happy until the pearl was his. So he sold everything he had, and bought it.'

'God's Kingdom is like that: worth more than anything else.'



The hungry crowd



It was another busy day, with no time even to eat. A crowd of people had been listening to Jesus. Now the sun was going down, and everyone was hungry.

'Send the people away to buy food,' Jesus' friends said.

'No,' Jesus answered. 'We must give them something to eat. How much bread have you got?'

Andrew, Peter's brother, said:

'There's a boy here with five barley loaves and two small fish. But that won't go far.'

'Tell everyone to sit down on the grass,' Jesus said. (There was a crowd of about 5,000.)

Then Jesus took the boy's bread and fish and thanked God for them. His friends took the food round—and to their great surprise everyone had enough to eat. The left-overs filled twelve baskets.

Next day, Jesus spoke of another kind of bread.

'I am the bread of life,' he said. 'Come to me and I will give you all that you need for the new life I have come to bring.'