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**Learn Your  
Numbers  
Learn to  
Serve**

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3

8

5

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*Sample Lesson*

## It's time to [Count Our Blessings](#) and [Be a Blessing](#)!

Your child(ren) will learn numbers and counting skills all while listening to and applying Bible stories, serving others, playing educational games, participating in learning activities, making crafts, and more. Not only that – they will be having fun too!

### Welcome to *Learn Your Numbers, Learn to Serve!*

This curriculum can be used alongside our *Learn Your Letters, Learn to Serve* curriculum. Note what they have in common...an emphasis on **teaching your child to serve!**

Letters and numbers are important for sure, but training our children to think of others, to make and give something to someone else, to pray for others, to be thankful, and to feel comfortable offering love to others – that is how we want to help shape our child's heart!

We began the "Learn Your Letters, Learn to Serve" idea when our second son was three years old (2003, wow!) It worked so beautifully that we did it again with boys number three and four. Each time, our other children (older or younger) got involved in serving too. Below is our youngest son back in 2008 when we worked through *Learn Your Letters, Learn to Serve*. Now our four boys are big and we get to watch them serving in the community, in the church, with young children, and at camps. It began while they were little. We are blessed to see God continuing to grow them in their leadership and service to Him. There is nothing better to see as a parent!



If you are intentional about serving with your children when they are younger, and you continue to serve with your kids as they grow – they will develop a heart of service. I can't think of a better way to spend time as a family!

## Pick and Choose!

I have included well over 150 activities and ideas in this curriculum. Should you do them all? Probably not! Pick and choose the ideas that work best for your family and for your child(ren). View each suggestion as a possibility, not as a “have to.”

Every child learns at a different rate, so if at any time your child is frustrated with the academic activities, gently pull back and try again later in a few months. Learning to love and serve is more important than anything we can teach our kids – so let the academic sections of this book offer you lesson ideas and activity options, but do not make it the main focus.

### Here’s what you’ll find in *Learn Your Numbers, Learn to Serve*



#### What Does the Bible Say?

Why not use the story of Jesus feeding 5,000 people with **5** loaves and **2** fish to teach numbers? How about reading the story of the young King Josiah along with learning the number **8**? The **7** days of creation while learning about the number **7**? Of course! There’s a Bible story/reading suggestion for every number from 0-12.

Each lesson will include a selection from scripture that you can use to discuss numbers and counting, but more importantly, scripture knowledge and application.

You know your child best! This is why the lessons only give a suggested scripture reference. Look it up and read it for yourself. How would this story or lesson best be taught to your child or family? Should you read it directly from the Bible? Should you read it from a Story Bible? Should you read it to yourself then tell your child about it in your own words? Do as you wish! In addition, you may use your preferred Bible translation.



#### Count Your Blessings!

Use the charts on pages 62-64 to teach counting skills, but more importantly to consider all God’s work! It is ideal for you to get your entire family involved in this practice.

Each lesson will offer an opportunity for you to add to the chart as together with your child, you count your blessings! Write a blessing in each box, teaching your child to reflect on God’s goodness.

You will find these charts in the Printables Pack. Pages 62-63 are numbered 1-100. I suggest that you print these pages and glue them onto colored construction paper or cardstock. Allow your child to decorate the pages if you wish. Through the next few weeks, if you go over 100, or if you would like to write numbers in as you go, use the chart on page 64.

(Page numbers in sample packet pages 2-4 are not accurate as they reflect the page numbers in the actual curriculum kit.)



**Let's  
Learn!**

You will find many activity suggestions and printables within this academic section of each lesson. Use these to teach and reinforce the Bible lesson and many skills involved with numbers. Pick and choose which of these activities will work best for your child. Or come up with ideas of your own!



**Be a  
Blessing!**

Here's where you will apply what you're learning and use it to serve others! This section will offer ideas, recipes, printables, and patterns to choose from so that you and your child can reach out and love others.

Reading about the 5 loaves of bread Jesus served the people? Make 5 mini-loaves of your favorite quick bread to deliver to 5 people. What fun, and what a wonderful opportunity for your family to look at ways to serve others!

## The Printables Pack

You'll find a section on pages 61-147. Use these along with each lesson as directed. Much of the preparation (cutting, etc.) will need to be completed by a parent ahead of time.

## Trace and Count

From 0-12, your child can practice *number recognition*, *counting*, and *number writing*. Find these Trace and Count printables in the Printables Pack on pages 65-77. They look like this:



Use these Trace and Count Printables at the beginning of each lesson. As you focus on teaching each number, it is important that you...

- Say the number
- Point to the number
- Show how the number word is spelled
- Show your child how to point to each object on the page to count the objects, showing that the number of objects on each page matches the number shown on the page
- Allow your child to carefully trace the numbers on each page with their finger
- Allow your child to carefully trace the numbers on each page with a pencil or crayon

2

Boats



## What Does the Bible Say?

Read and discuss Luke 5:1-11 with your family. Apply the lesson and concepts you feel are appropriate for your child(ren).



## Count Your Blessings!

Add to the chart on pages 62-64 as together with your family, you count your blessings! Write a blessing in each box, a few each week, teaching your child to reflect on God's goodness.



## Let's Learn!



### Fill the Boat!

Jesus helped his disciples catch so many fish that the nets broke and the boats began to sink! Get two plastic containers to use as "boats." Fill the bathtub with water and watch the boats float. Then, begin to fill the boats with small but heavy objects like rubber balls, wooden blocks, or other objects that will not be ruined if it becomes wet. Use the "one-to-one" method of counting as you and your child fill the boats – seeing how many objects you can put into the boats before they sink!



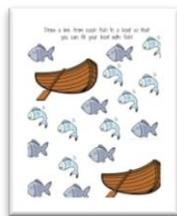
### Fish Prints

Help your child create 2 handprints onto a piece of white paper. Once the paint has dried, help draw an eye and a mouth on each so that the handprints look like 2 fish.



## Count and Categorize

Print the activity sheet on page 12. Help your child count the boats on this sheet. Help your child count how many kinds of fish on the page. Allow your child to use a pencil or crayon to draw a line from each fish to one of the boats to fill up the boats. They may draw a line from each fish to either of the boats. However, if you feel your child is capable, encourage them to “categorize” the two kinds of fish – only one type of fish per boat.



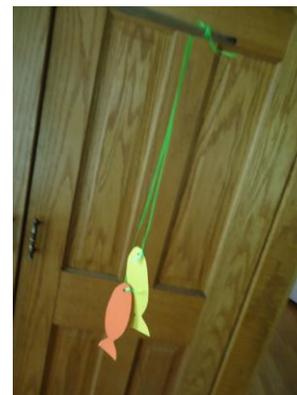
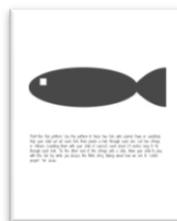
## Fishy Craft

Help your child string beads onto a pipecleaner. Shape the pipecleaner into a fish or a boat – or make a few of each! While creating these, you might encourage your child to place the beads in a pattern, as well as practice counting skills while your child counts out beads for this project.



## Catching Fish

Print the fish pattern on page 11. Trace two fish onto colored foam or cardstock. Cut out each fish, then punch a hole through each one. Cut two strings or ribbons (counting them with your child of course!), each about 24 inches long, to tie through each hole. Tie the other end of the strings onto a stick. Allow your child to play with this fun toy while you discuss the Bible story, talking about how we are to “catch people” for Jesus.



## Build a Boat

Print the shapes on page 14 and cut them apart. Print two copies of page 15. Work with your child to fit each piece onto the 2 boats, in any color combination. Glue the pieces onto each boat with a glue stick.





# Be a Blessing!

## Share the Good News!

Jesus told the men in the 2 boats that instead of catching fish, from now on, they would “catch men” by telling people about Him. Print the cards on page 13 and cut them apart. Allow your child to color them, and decorate them with construction paper or glitter or however they would like. Then pray together about who your child(ren) should share the cards with.



## Make and Share Pizza Boats

Allow your child to invite a friend to make Pizza Boats. One loaf of Italian Bread makes 2 boats – perfect for this lesson! Reinforce the Bible lesson as your child and his/her friend “fill the boats with fish” – otherwise known as cheese, pepperoni, or other favorite pizza toppings.



### How to Make Pizza Boats

Slice a loaf of Italian or French bread in half the long way. Spread with pizza sauce, and top however you like. Bake in a 350° oven for 10-15 minutes.

## Share a Snack

Allow your child to invite a friend over to share some play time and these Apple Boat Snacks.

### To Make Apple Boats

Slice apple into 8 wedges. Cut thin slices of cheese into 8 pieces (1/4” x 1.5” each) and fruit leather into squares (1”x1” each). Place a piece of cheese on each apple. Slide a toothpick through each piece of fruit leather and attach to apple like the sail of a boat.



 Make, Fill, Share

Using 2 inexpensive paper plates, follow this pattern to make 2 “boat” containers. Fill the boats with a baggie of goldfish crackers or another fun treat to share with others.

**1**

Cut two slits on each side of the plate, leaving about three inches uncut in the middle.



**2**

Fold the uncut sides up.



**3**

Turn the plate and fold the other sides in the same way.



**4**

Bring the cut points together on both sides and tape to secure.



**5**

Tie a ribbon around the “boat basket” and fill with goodies.



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two



2

two

2

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2

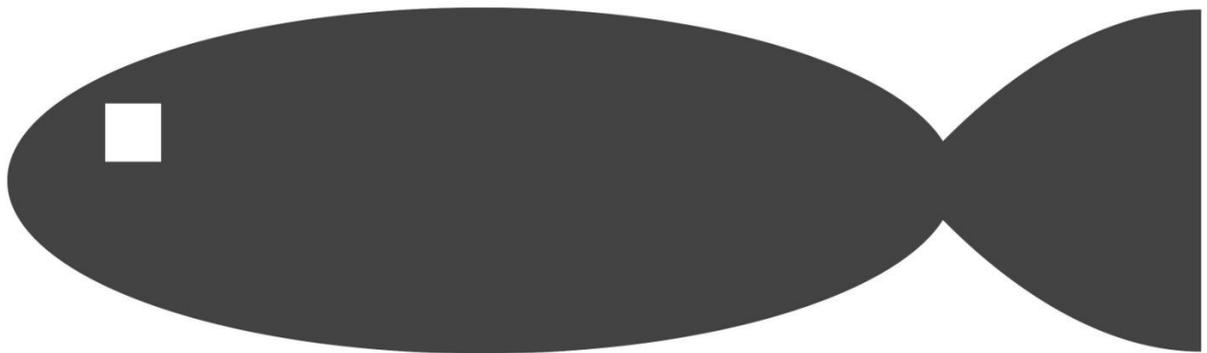
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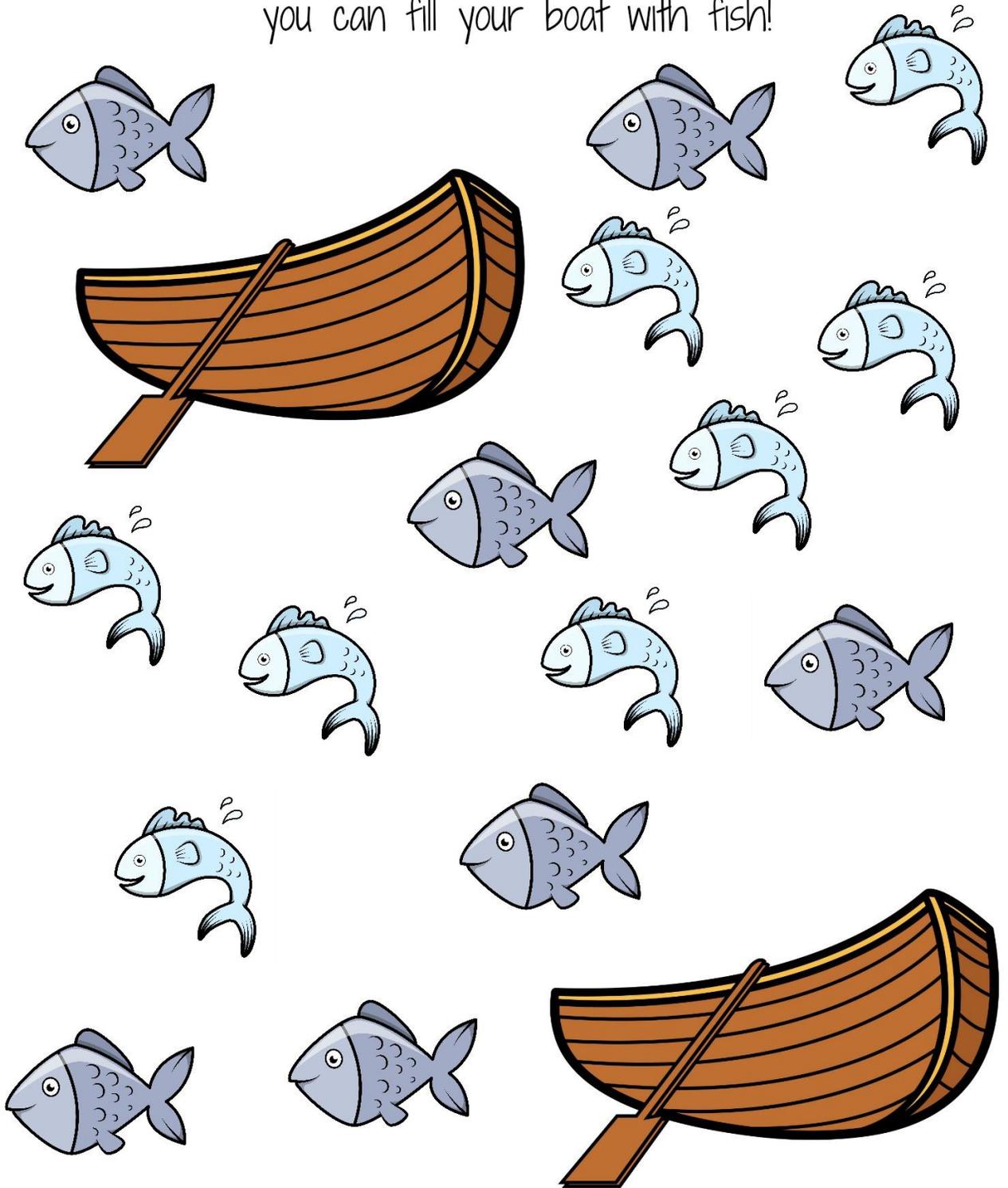
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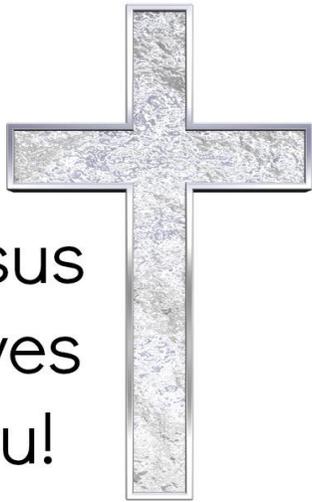


Print this fish pattern. Use the pattern to trace two fish onto colored foam or cardstock. Help your child cut out each fish, then punch a hole through each one. Cut two strings or ribbons (counting them with your child of course!), each about 24 inches long, to tie through each hole. Tie the other end of the strings onto a stick. Allow your child to play with this fun toy while you discuss the Bible story, talking about how we are to “catch people” for Jesus.

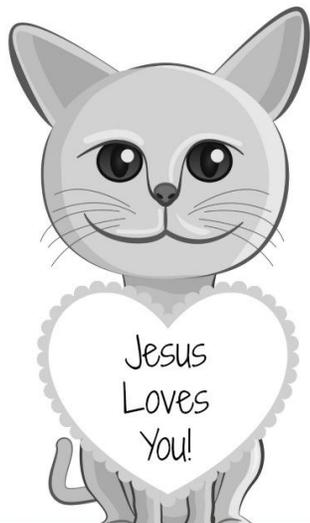
How many boats? How many kinds of fish?  
Draw a line from each fish to a boat so that  
you can fill your boat with fish!



Jesus  
Loves  
You!



Jesus Loves You!



Jesus  
Loves  
You!



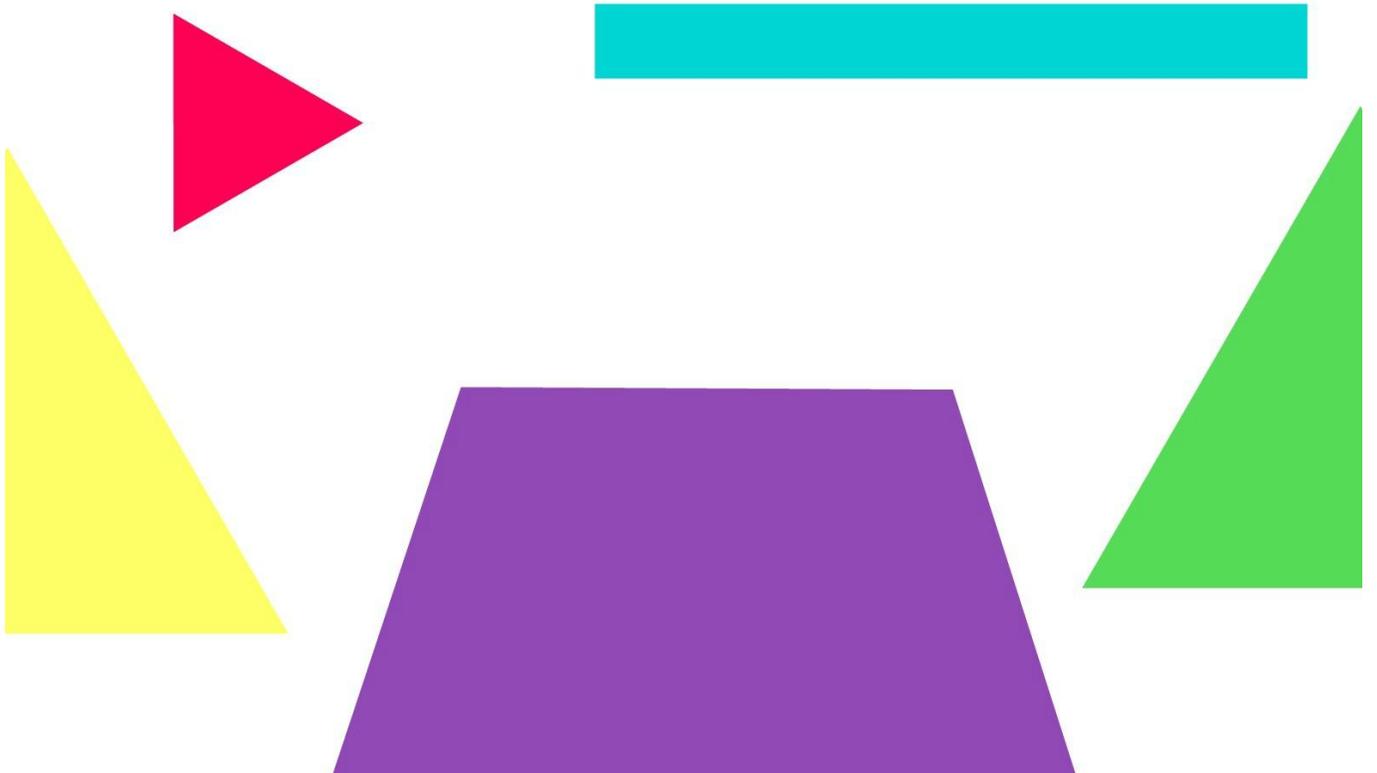
Jesus Loves You!

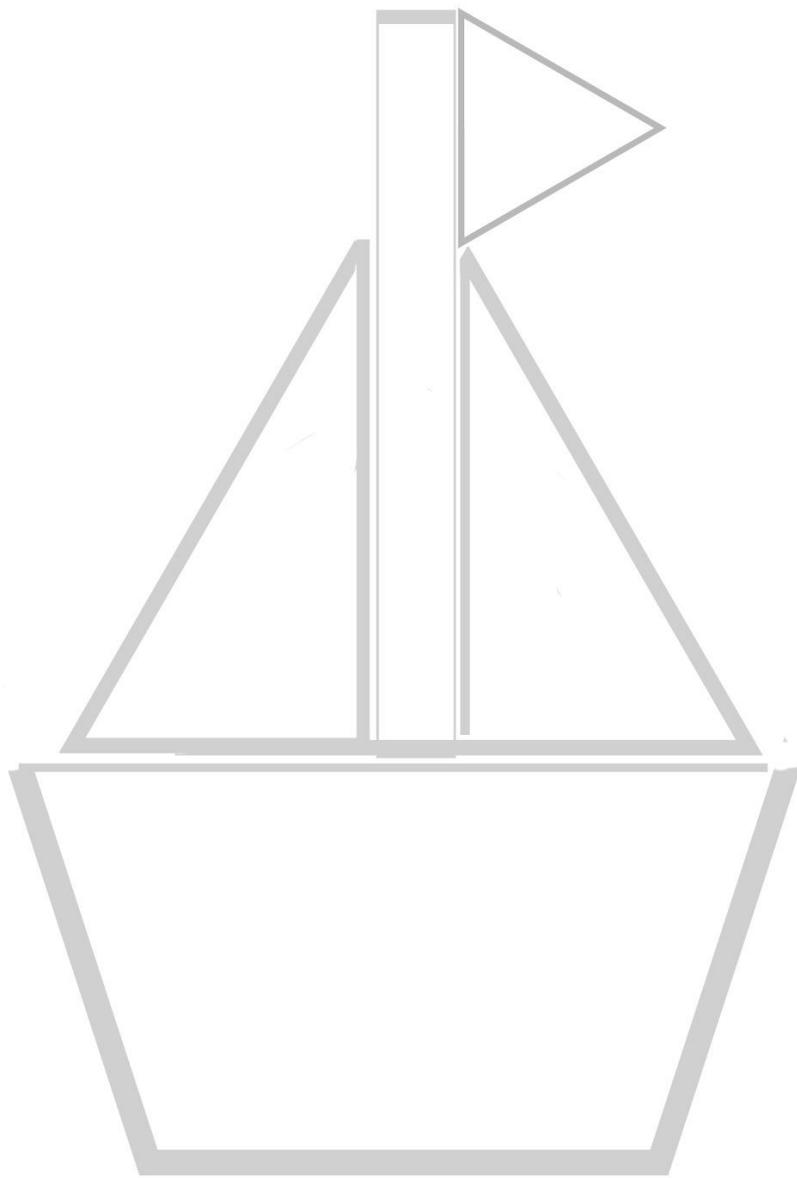
Jesus  
Loves  
You!





Cut out the shapes. Glue them onto the 2 boats on the next page. Count the boats.





Purchase the full 148-page copy of *Learn Your Numbers, Learn to Serve* at [HeavenlyHomemakers.com](http://HeavenlyHomemakers.com)!

My prayer is that your family was blessed as you learned together and served others together.



### About the Author:

Laura Coppinger received a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education in 1995. She became a stay at home mom when her first son was born in 1997 and began teaching her own kids at home (as soon as they were home from the hospital) officially in 2002. She and her husband Matt have home-schooled their four sons for nine years at the time of this writing. You'll find her daily musings, healthy recipes, and family encouragement at her website [www.heavenlyhomemakers.com](http://www.heavenlyhomemakers.com).