

Introduction

- In this session we are going to be thinking about when Jesus appeared to some of the disciples, after Jesus is resurrected but before He goes back to Heaven.
- The session has a number of activities designed to be carried out together as a family and is suitable for all ages of children and young people.
- Any materials you need should be found in your house and should not require you to go anywhere.
- Enjoy, and God bless you as you use these resources at home.
- So let's begin as we always do....Hands up for news time!

NEWS TIME!



SHARE YOUR NEWS OF THE WEEK



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO THANK GOD FOR?



HOW HAS SOMEONE HELPED YOU?



Game - Fish Race!



- Cut out a fish shape from paper/tissue paper/newspaper one for each person. Bend up the tail of each fish slightly.
- Put your fish on the floor and use a book/magazine/paper plate to "blow" your fish along by waving it to create a breeze behind the fish.



- Mark and start and finish line and have a race.
- This game works best on a hard surface, so use a tabletop or laminate floor rather than carpet.



Bible Story - Something Fishy

- Today's Bible story is taken from the book of John and tells an amazing story about something that happened when Jesus appeared to some of His disciples (followers). This story takes place after Jesus was resurrected.
- For the story today you will need the props below. Find them around your house before you begin reading the story and place them all in a bag. As you read the story today, get the props out when prompted and build up the story, or act it out as you go. Don't worry if you don't have one of the props, be as imaginative as you like, or you could always just draw a picture of it or write the word on a piece of paper. The props you need are:
 - ► A boat (or plastic tub)
 - Fish (or make some from tin foil)
 - People disciples and Jesus (you could use Lego people or soft toys)
 - A net (how about a fruit or veg net or a small plastic bag)
 - Campfire (maybe sticks, tissue paper flames, bright coloured teatowel)
 - ► A sheep (baaaaaaaaaaaa.....)

Bible Story - Something Fishy John 21:1-17

Take the disciples out of the prop bag and read the first part of the story:

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together.

► Take the boat out of the prop bag:

"I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Take Jesus out of the prop bag:

Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered.

Take the net and fish out of the prop bag:

He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.

Bible Story - Something Fishy John 21:1-17

Take the campfire out of the prop bag:

When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Take the sheep out of the prop bag:

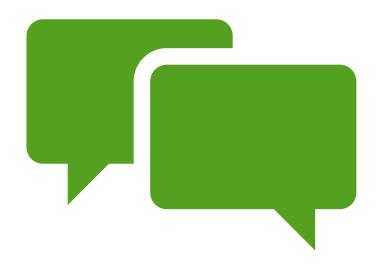
When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Bible Story - what did you create?



- How did your finished scene look? Here's mine - we didn't have a sheep, so I used an elephant!
- If you want to, take a photo of yours and send it in.

Discussion - what was the story about?



- ► Have a chat about what the story was about. Here are some possible questions you could think about:
 - Who was in the story today?
 - ► How did the people in the story feel?
 - What was unusual or surprising in the story?
 - Why did Jesus ask Peter the question three times?
 - Who are the "sheep" and how could Peter look after them?

Prayer - what's your job?

- Some of the disciples were fishermen and that was their job before they followed Jesus. At the end of today's story Jesus tells Simon Peter to "feed his sheep", which means telling people about Jesus and helping others, and this was his new job.
- What jobs/roles have you done in the past? (play an instrument in a band, laying the table, friend)
- What jobs/roles do you have now? (brother/sister, making your bed, Brownie/Cub)
- What jobs/roles will you have in the future? (walking to school alone, sports captain, driving a car)
- Sit in a circle with your family and take it in turns to say thank you prayers about jobs/roles you've had in the past. As you pray point behind you.
- Next take turns to say a prayer to ask God to help you in the jobs/roles you have now. As you pray point down to the ground.
- Finally take turns to say a prayer to ask God to guide you in future roles. As you pray point in front of you.
- Remember, God hears our prayers if we pray out loud *or* in our head.



Creative time

Have a go at one or more of the activities below:



- Make a collage (or picture) of the story.
- Design a comic strip of the story.
- Draw a big fish on a piece of paper and colour it in.
- Write a diary entry for Peter imagining what he saw and felt like that day.
- Read Luke 5:1-11 and make a list of similarities and differences with the story today (suitable for older children).



Memory Verse

- ▶ Get the fish you used as your prop in the story, and also get a frying pan.
- Take turns flipping the fish in the frying pan and, as you do, say the following memory verse:

"Now come and have some breakfast!" Jesus said.

None of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?"

They knew it was the Lord.

John 21:12

Reflection

- What did you learn about Peter today?
- What was your favourite part of today's session?
- What job/role will you have this week for Jesus?
- Prayer to end:

Thank you, God for our time together learning about the disciples having breakfast with Jesus. Please guide us in what job/role you want us to do. Help us to tell others about all the amazing things you have done. Thank you for loving us and looking after us. AMEN!

Something extra:

Create a timeline of the events we have learnt about over the past few weeks since Palm Sunday. We will be looking at the final things Jesus does on Earth before going back to Heaven next week.