

# JESUS AND ANOTHER MIRACULOUS CATCH OF FISH

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: JOHN 21:1-14



## The STORY

Read John 21:1-14.

**Please note:** *The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.*

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What is this story about? (The story is about Jesus appearing after He rose from the dead.)
- Who did He appear to? (Seven of the disciples who were fishing at the Sea of Tiberias).
- Did they recognize Jesus? (No, they did not know who it was at first. It was not until Jesus told them to recast their nets and they caught a bundle of fish that they knew who it was.)

## CRAFT QUESTIONS

**Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: the disciples hauling in a huge net full of fish. Engage the children by asking:**

- What is in the net? (The net is full of fish.)
- Who caught all these fish? (The disciples caught the fish in their net. There were 153 large fish.)
- How did Jesus help them catch the fish? (Jesus, who is God and knows everything and commands all nature, told them where they should cast their nets.)

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### SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- Why did the disciples not recognize Jesus? (It was an amazing thing for a man to rise again from the dead as Jesus did. They just didn't expect Jesus to be there.)
- What helped them recognize that it was Jesus? (When they caught a huge net full of fish following Jesus' instructions they knew it was Him.)
- How many times had Jesus appeared to the disciples before this time? (There were two other times that Jesus appeared to the disciples, once without Thomas who doubted and once with Thomas present.)

### WHERE IS the Gospel?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

This is the third time that Jesus appears to His disciples. Jesus' bodily resurrection is shown to be genuine as Jesus breaks bread and eats a fish breakfast with His disciples. The disciples didn't imagine Jesus. He was not a wandering spirit or a ghost of any kind.

The resurrected Jesus appeared the same as He was before He died with the addition of His sacred wounds. And yet, though Jesus was raised a man, He was also God, able to command the catch of fish and supervise creation. This appearance of the Savior once again cements the fact of the resurrection and His conquering death and sin.

### SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

**BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

*Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.*