LESSON 12

JESUS APPEARS TO HIS FRIENDS



Aim: **To show the children how Jesus appeared to the disciples and spoke especially to Peter, entrusting him with the task of telling everyone who Jesus is and what he offers all who believe in him.**

Scripture Reading: **John 21:1-19**

Memory Verse: **No new verse**
Review the passage so far.

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Talk to the class about things they know they can do and perhaps are good at. Examples: looking after goats or other animals, making toys from tin or wire, looking after younger children, making and serving tea.

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

1. Many of Jesus' disciples were fishermen. It used to be their job and they were good at it, but they had largely given it up for three years while they followed Jesus around. Now they knew Jesus was alive. They had seen him. Still, they were very confused; they didn't understand what was to be the outcome of all those extraordinary events. Therefore seven of them decided to do something they knew well. They went fishing in the Sea of Galilee. However, even though they were good fishermen they caught nothing all night long (21:2-3).
2. At sunrise a man whom they did not recognise called out to them from the shore. **Tell the class what the man said and what happened when the disciples obeyed his instructions (21:4-6).**
3. Then John realised it was Jesus on the shore. **Explain that John refers to himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved" instead of using his own name (21:7a).** Peter could not wait to greet Jesus, who had a meal ready on the shore for the tired and hungry fishermen. They added more fish to it from their miraculous catch (21:7b-14). **Show Picture 12.**
That day, Jesus performed two miracles for his friends. He enabled them to catch a lot of fish where there seemed to be no fish, and he had a meal ready for them before they had contributed any fish themselves.
4. After breakfast Jesus took Peter aside to speak to him in particular. **Describe the three questions Jesus put to Peter, the answers Peter gave, and the commission Jesus gave Peter (21:15-19).** The night before Jesus was crucified, Peter thrice said that he did not know Jesus. Now Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved him. In the way he replied Peter wanted to show that he really loved Jesus and that he wanted to carry out Jesus' commands.

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Our Response to the Story

Jesus asks us the same questions that he put to Peter. Every one of you can put your own name in front of this question, for example: "Ruta/Juma, do you love me?"

If you do love him, Jesus gives this command to you as well: "Take care of my flock." God has a task planned for every one of those who are willing to follow Jesus Christ (Eph 2:10).

Instil the Memory Verse



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