## FOLLOW JESUS

## **BREAKFAST BY THE SEA**

John 21:1-19

Describe for students how after Jesus rose from the dead, He came back and appeared to people several times. One of those times is what we will be discussing today. Peter had gone back to being a fisherman after Jesus rose from the dead, and he was out in his sail-boat with James and John. Hold up a fishing rod, as well as a net (mention the difference, and how Peter used the net to catch fish). They had fished all night and not had a single fish swim into their nets, and they were tired and hungry.

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. 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. 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. 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.

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Memory Verse: Matthew 4:19

**Text Truth:** Peter had sinned, but Jesus loved and forgave him.

**Christ in Context:** The Book of John reveals Jesus as the Word of God who became flesh. Jesus used the personal name of God, I am, seven times in the Gospel to declare that HE is God. John's Gospel describes the eternal, all-knowing, ever-present, and all-powerful nature of Christ.



Activity

Help your children make fish sticks! These aren't the kind you bake in the oven to eat; they are bookmarks! Provide each child with glue, a foam fish craft kit or foam/colored paper cut into the shape of fish, wiggly eyes, and other decorating materials. After they have made their fish, attach it to the top of a large craft stick or tongue depressor. You could add Jesus' words, "Come and eat," to the stick with a marker. Invite the children to use their fish to mark John 21 in their Bibles and to share this story with friends!