

Re-enact the Story

Breakfast by the Sea

Re-enact the Breakfast by the Sea encounter of Jesus with His Disciples.

Spread a blanket on the ground to sit upon. (For fun, bring in some wood or sticks and “lay” a fire nearby.) Hand out snacks for the children. For example: Goldfish crackers or other crackers, Gummi Worms, juice, water, etc. While the children have their snacks retell the story of Jesus and His encounter with His Disciples by the Sea of Galilee. Review the Bible story found in John 21:1-19. Say the story in your own words.

Peter and the disciples had gone fishing. They had been fishing all night and had caught nothing. The next morning they were headed in to shore when they saw someone on the bank of the lake. (It was Jesus, the Risen Christ, but they didn’t realize it yet.) Jesus asked them “Have you caught anything?” No, they hadn’t. “Let down your net on the right side of the boat,” Jesus told them. They did so and caught 153 large fish. All of a sudden they realized it was Jesus! Peter jumped into the water and swam to shore. When they arrived Jesus was cooking breakfast for them on a fire of coals. He fed them bread and fish.

(Note here that you are having a snack, just like the disciples had breakfast. And that you have sticks for a fire, just like they had that day. Do you think they used Gummi Worms for fishing? Probably not.)

After breakfast, Jesus had a long talk with Peter, who had denied Him three times. Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him. Peter said he did three times. (But he was embarrassed that Jesus had to ask him three times. He remembered that he had denied Jesus three times.)

Each time when Peter said he loved Jesus, Jesus told him things like “Feed my lambs,” “Take care of my sheep,” and “Feed my sheep.” Jesus was giving Peter something to do for Him. He wanted Peter to help take care of those who would believe in Jesus. Jesus put Peter “back together” with God and gave Peter some very important jobs to do! Finally He told Peter, “You follow me.”

When we do things that are wrong, it pushes us away from God. When we do that, it is Jesus Himself who searches for us, and puts us back together with God. He even gives us fun and wonderful things to do!

From that time on there are no stories about Peter denying that he knew Jesus again. In fact, Peter became a great preacher and was a follower of Christ until the day he died. Now Peter is alive with Jesus forever! Hurray! The End.

Clean up the cracker crumbs and fold up the picnic blanket. Get some special help putting things away.