

After the Resurrection Jesus Appears to the Disciples

John 21

Lesson Jesus Appears to His Disciples

Passage: John 21:1-14

Verse: How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! 1 John 3:1

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Lavish Love on the Beach

Remember: After the Resurrection the disciples had seen Jesus two other times.

This night 7 of them decided to go fishing. One of the 7 that was there was Thomas.

Thomas was a new man with new faith. **Who remembers something about Thomas?**

Fishing was a night activity. Catch the fish at night, then you'd have fresh caught fish to sell in the morning in the market.

Several of them had been fishermen. It is what they did, it is what they knew.

So out on the Sea of Galilee they went.

All attempts at catching fish failed, they threw their nets and nothing. Empty. Again and again they threw their nets and no fish were caught. How could that be?

Now daylight was breaking.

They heard a man calling to them from the shore:

Jesus: Children, do you have any fish?

Disciples: NO, no fish.

Jesus: Throw your nets to the other side.

You'll get some.

So they did. And a marvelous thing happened. Miraculous really.

Their net now dragged. So many fish, such heavy nets.

The 7 men couldn't haul it in. And the net did not tear.

John turned to Peter and said: It is the Lord!

And with that Peter threw on his clothes, jumped into the sea and waded to shore.

The other disciples came to shore in the boat.

They are now all on the beach and what did they find?

A fire was going and fish were cooking.

Jesus was making breakfast!

He said: Bring Me some of your fish.

So they hauled the net onto the beach and counted the fish. 153 fish!

And now the next marvelous miraculous thing – the net was not torn.

Now picture this: 7 men on the beach with a miraculous catch of fish.



And Jesus the Risen Lord is cooking for them. And He is serving them breakfast. He's going to eat breakfast with them.

Here's a Bible verse to go with this story:

How great is the love the Father has **lavished** on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! 1 John 3:1

Isn't this a picture of lavish love, abundant love? Remember the woman who anointed Jesus' feet with oil and her tears? **Why was that lavish love?**

Not just 153 fish but He was with them on the beach cooking their breakfast.

He had left them when He was on the cross, to be with them in the boat, on the beach, in their lives. He left them to wash their hearts clean from the stain of their sins.

Now He was with them. Jesus calls us His children. He is our heavenly Father.

After the story:

Can you think of anything more marvelous, more miraculous than to be called a child of the King? This is love, this is lavish love!

Did the disciples trust their own fishing abilities? Yes! We trust ourselves. We say: I can do it. I'll do it myself!

Think about this:

Their nets were empty – until He sent 153 fish out of the water and into their nets. He made the fish, Jesus commands even fish. How much more is His love for you!

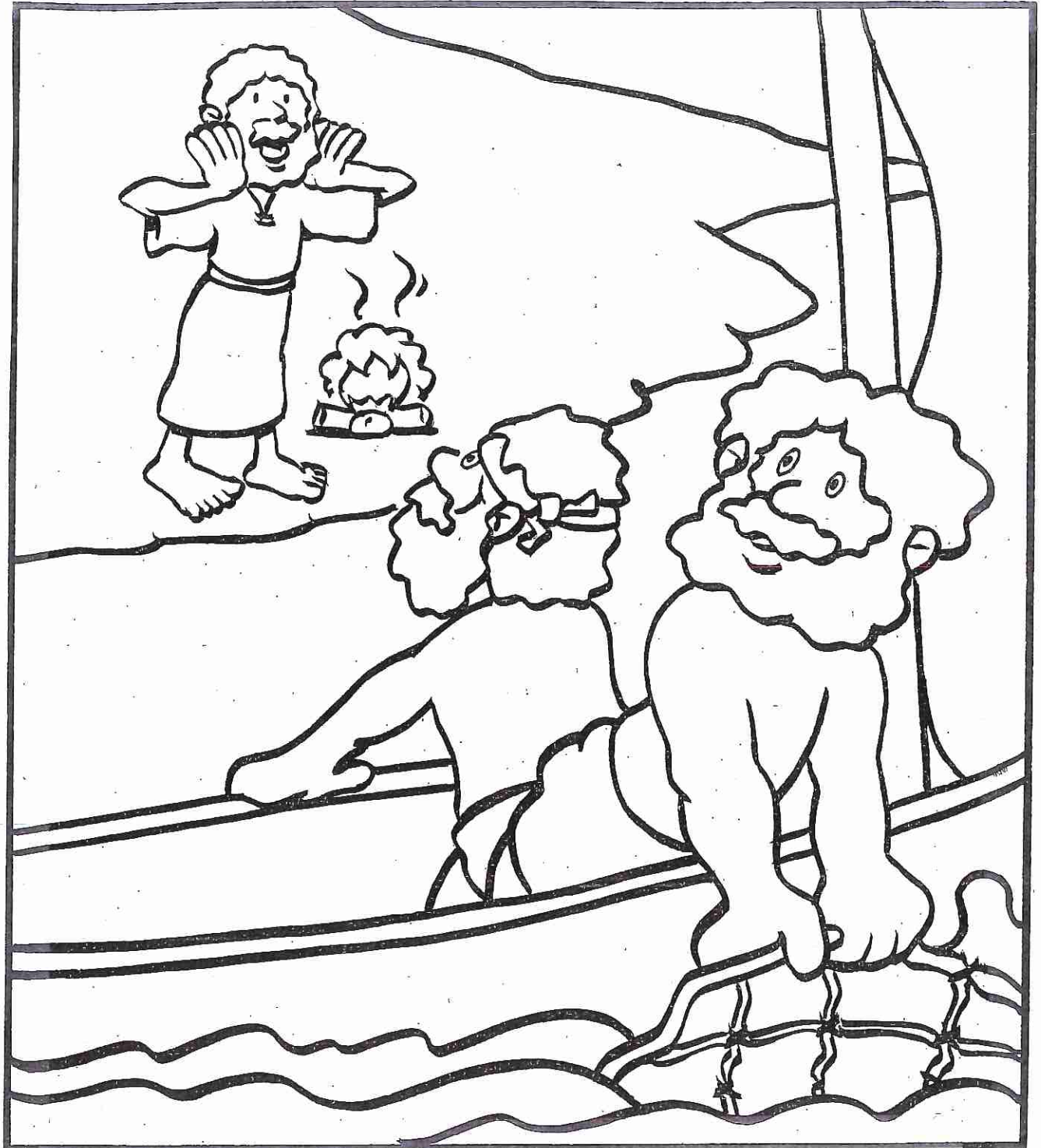
On the cross Jesus lost His Father's love so that we could be filled with His love. And part of that, a great part of that is His forgiveness.

Jesus washes us clean so that we have hearts that can be filled with His love.

He cares about filling empty fishing nets and filling empty hearts.

Jesus shows us Lavish Love

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Jesus met His disciples on the sea shore after the resurrection. They were fishing, but they had not caught any fish at all. At Jesus' command He filled their nets with fish, 153 fish! He cooked breakfast for them. Jesus shows His love for them and for us in big ways! He washed our sins away with His blood. And Jesus shows His love for us in small things. He gives us our daily food.

John 21

Breakfast on the Beach

Lavish Love

¹After this Jesus revealed Himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and He revealed Himself in this **way**. ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that **night** they caught nothing. ⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered Him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "**Cast** the net on the **right** side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to **haul** it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his **outer** garment, for he was stripped for work, and **threw** himself into the **sea**. ⁸The other disciples came in the **boat**, dragging the net **full** of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off. ⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just **caught**." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and **hauled** the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "**Come** and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the **fish**. ¹⁴This was now the **third** time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after He was **raised** from the dead.

R	I	G	H	T	H	R	E	W
A	C	A	U	G	H	T	S	B
I	O	U	T	E	R	H	E	O
S	M	F	I	S	H	I	A	A
E	E	H	A	U	L	R	C	T
D	H	A	U	L	E	D	A	E
F	U	L	L	A	M	B	S	N
W	A	Y	N	I	G	H	T	D

Jesus met His disciples on the shore and cooked breakfast for them. Jesus loves His children. He showed us His love on the cross. He paid the debt that we owe God for our sin, for our disobedience, to Him. Jesus paid and now He gives us His righteousness. He brings us to the Father. We see Jesus cooking breakfast. And filling their nets with fish. What He does and what His plans are for us spell "lavish love". When you pray thank the Lord that He cares about everything that you do each day. Thank Him that nothing is beyond His caring.



