

STORY

The Appearance to Disciples in Galilee- John 21:1-17

TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Savior, You appeared to Your disciples and Peter in Galilee to comfort them and to strengthen their faith. You also called Peter, who denied You three times, to become a shepherd of souls. You have also called me to help in teaching the children in our Sunday School. Send Your Holy Spirit that I may be a faithful teacher of Your children in my preparations, in my teaching, and in my daily life. Amen.

VOCABULARY

Sea of Tiberias - Another name for the Sea of Galilee. At Jesus' time Tiberias was the name of one of the nine smaller communities around the Sea of Galilee. One historian, Josephus, states that it was built by Herod Antipas and was named by him in honor of the emperor Tiberias. Many of the inhabitants of Tiberias were Greeks and Romans, so foreign customs prevailed there. "Sea of Tiberias" was used by John only (21:1).

200 cubits - A cubit is an ancient measure of length, about 18-20 inches; originally the length of the arm from the end of the middle finger to the elbow. 200 cubits is about 100 yards.

Gird yourself - The term, "gird up" and "gird up your loins" called for one to use a belt or sash to gather up the length or fulness of a garment to be ready for any service or activity that might be required.

Simon, son of Jonas - By these words Jesus addressed Peter. "Peter" was the name of honor (Rock) that Jesus gave to Simon. Jesus used his original name in order to remind Peter that he had, by denying Jesus three times, reverted to his natural state and disposition.

The disciple whom Jesus loved - John never refers to himself by name in his writings. He usually referred to himself as "that other disciple" or "the disciple that Jesus loved." By that term John did not suggest that he was Jesus' favorite disciple, or that Jesus loved him more than others. John believed on Jesus as the Savior of all people, even John! It is a humble confession of his faith when he includes himself in Jesus' love.

OUTER AIM

The resurrected Savior appeared to His disciples at Galilee as He promised. There, He reminds them of His loving care and forgiveness in directing His called shepherds to "Feed My lambs and feed My sheep."

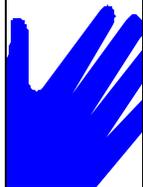
INNER AIM

To recognize God's Hand in our lives: the forgiving love and the life-giving care of Jesus for His disciples and all people.

BACKGROUND

(*Rupprecht Bible History References Vol. 2, pp. 447-452*)

Jesus appears to His disciples in Galilee as He had promised. There He comforted Peter and called him to be a shepherd of His sheep. Before He had been crucified Jesus had promised His disciples that He would



rise again the third day and go before them into Galilee. On Easter Sunday Jesus showed himself alive to the women and the disciples. He continued to appear to them in order to reinforce their faith. In our lesson today, we join the disciples as they go fishing while they wait for Jesus to appear in Galilee. When Jesus appeared to His disciples in Galilee, He reminded them of His great love and power. He assured Peter of forgiveness for his denials, and called him to be a shepherd (pastor) of His lambs and sheep.

- ▶ When Jesus was tried before the High Priest, Peter in the courtyard denied even knowing the Lord. Peter was sorry for this sin and wept bitter tears of repentance.
- ▶ Our Bible account for today shows Jesus' great love for Peter by letting him know his sin was forgiven and that he was being called to serve Jesus as a shepherd of His sheep.
- ▶ Jesus had told the disciples that after His death He would go before them into Galilee.
- ▶ After Jesus appeared to them in Jerusalem, they waited for His appearance in Galilee.
- ▶ Peter decided to use the time by continuing to work at his old profession of fishing, and the disciples went with him. They could not locate fish to net.
- ▶ As they were rowing to shore, suddenly Jesus appeared on shore, but they did not recognize Him.
- ▶ He called out, "Children, have you any food? They replied: "No!" He directed them to cast their net out of the right side of the boat. They did this and, as the net became very heavy with the weight of fish, they knew that the One on shore was Jesus.
- ▶ Knowing this, Peter plunged into the sea and hurried to shore.
- ▶ The disciples brought the boat to shore with a net full of 153 fish, yet the net never split open.
- ▶ Jesus invited them to a breakfast that was already prepared for them.
- ▶ After they had eaten, Jesus spoke privately to Peter, calling him Simon (not Peter, the "Rock"). Jesus said, "Simon, do you love me more than these?" Peter is asked to rank his love in a scale of comparison to others.
- ▶ He replied, "Yes, Lord, You know I love You."
- ▶ Jesus said to him, "Feed My lambs."
- ▶ Jesus asked him again, "Do you love me?" No comparison is asked for here; no ranking of its value. It is just a question for what love he had in the most essential, simple way.
- ▶ When he replied: "Yes, Lord, You know that I love You", Jesus said, "Tend My sheep."
- ▶ When Jesus asked him a third time, "Do you love (even like) Me?" The verb changes - as Jesus asked for the presence of even an affection between companions. That's what really stung!
- ▶ Peter replied, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."
- ▶ Jesus said, "Feed My sheep." Jesus gives Him the assurance that even that last "like" sort of love is still of use for the service of feeding His flock the precious Word of Truth.

STUDENT PRAYER

Lower: Jesus, we thank you for forgiving us our sins, and making us lambs in Your flock. Lead us safely Home. Amen.

Upper: Lord Jesus, we too have often sinned by denying You. Thank you for forgiving us and for being our Good Shepherd. Lead us safely Home to You. Amen.

PRESENTATION

Tell the story with the same emotion and excitement as if you were there. Tell the story in your words, but be faithful to the account that God wrote through the evangelist John.

APPLICATIONS

As God brings us to faith in our Savior, we become the lambs and the sheep of His flock. He leads us with the assurance of the forgiveness of our sins and a love for our souls. He therefore continues to call shepherds (pastors and teachers) to help care for His flock, that they may follow Him all the way Home.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Psalm 23:1a and 6b - The Lord is my shepherd... I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Hymn 428, stanza 4: I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead; Ev'ry day and hour supplying All my need.

Middle any of the above and...

Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

Hymn 428, stanzas 1-3: I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee; Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.

I am trusting Thee for pardon; At Thy feet I bow, For Thy grace and tender mercy Trusting now.

I am trusting Thee for cleansing In the crimson flood; Trusting Thee to make me holy By Thy blood.

Upper any of the above and...

Psalm 23 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Hymn 428, stanzas 4-6: I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead, Ev'ry day and hour supplying All my need.

I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail. Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall. I am trusting Thee forever And for all.

Jesus Appears to the Disciples in Galilee

John 21:1-17

The Story

Parents: Review this lesson with your child.

After rising from the dead on Easter and appearing to some of His followers, Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. Peter, John and other disciples were there fishing at night, but they caught no fish. When the morning came, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not know Him. Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?"

The disciples answered, "No." Jesus said to them, "Let your net down on the other side of the boat, and you will find some fish." The disciples cast out their nets again. Immediately the nets were so filled with fish that the disciples couldn't even pull them into the boat.

John said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Peter heard that it was Jesus, he jumped into the water since they were close to shore. The other disciples came in the boat dragging the net full of fish. As soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught."

Peter helped drag the net to land. It was full of 153 large fish. Even though there were so many fish, the net was not broken! Jesus said to the disciples, "Come and eat breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?" because they knew now that He was the Lord. Jesus then came and took the bread and fish and gave it to them.

This was now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead. He was proving to everyone that He was God and had conquered death.

When they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Peter, "Simon Peter, do you love Me more than these others?"

Peter said to Jesus, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Feed My lambs."

He said to Peter again a second time, "Simon Peter, do you love Me?"

Peter said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Then tend My sheep."

Then Jesus said to Peter the third time, "Simon Peter, do you love Me?" Peter was sad because Jesus had asked him three times, "Do you love Me?"

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Then feed My sheep."

Passage

"The Lord is my shepherd." Psalm 23:1

Hymn - TLH #428 v. 1

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free.

Prayer

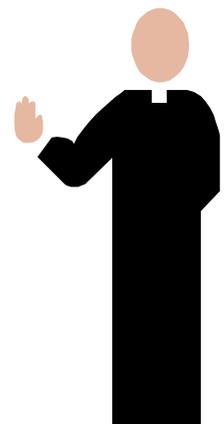
Jesus,
We thank You for forgiving us our sins and making us lambs in Your flock. Lead us safely home to heaven. Amen.



Classroom Art Activity - Color this picture. Then cut it out. It can be made into a magnet, necklace, etc.



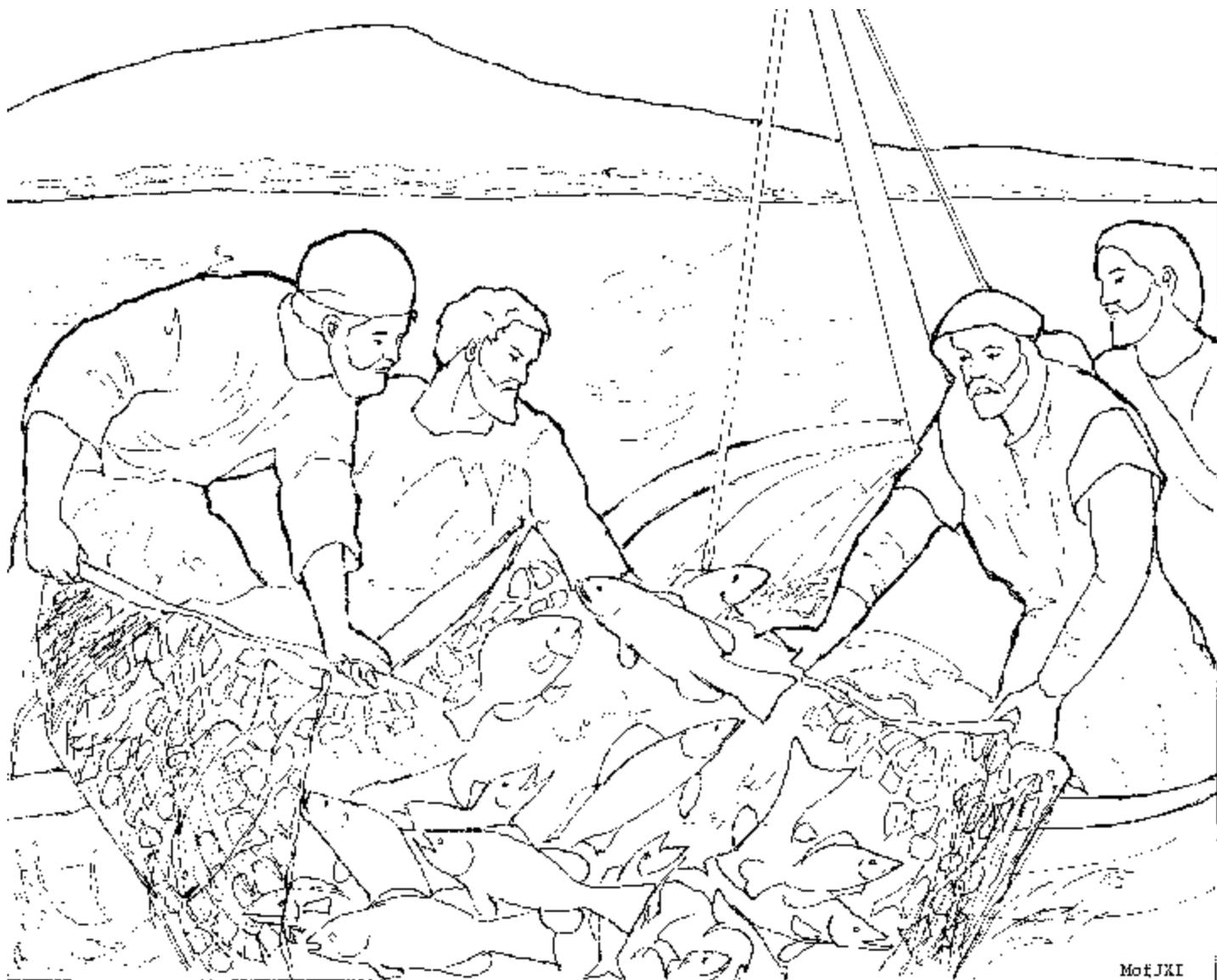
Classroom Activity - Circle the pictures that show ways to tell others about Jesus.





Jesus Appears to the Disciples in Galilee

John 21:1-17



The Story

After rising from the dead and appearing to some of His followers, Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, James and John, and two other disciples were there. Peter said to them, "I am going fishing."

They said to him, "We are going with you." They went out and got into the boat. That night they caught no fish. When the morning came, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not know Him. Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?"

The disciples answered, "No." Jesus said to them, "Let your net down on the other side of the boat, and you will find some fish." The disciples cast out their nets again. Immediately the nets were so filled with fish that the disciples couldn't even pull them into the boat.

John said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Peter heard that it was Jesus, he jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat (for they were not far from land), dragging the net with fish. Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught."

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fish, the net was not broken! Jesus said to the disciples, "Come and eat breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?" because they knew now that He was the Lord. Jesus then came and took the bread and fish and gave it to them.

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Jesus said to him, "Feed My lambs."

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Peter said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Then tend My sheep."

Then Jesus said to Peter the third time, "Simon Peter, do you love Me?" Peter was sad because Jesus had asked him three times, "Do you love Me?"

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Then feed My sheep."

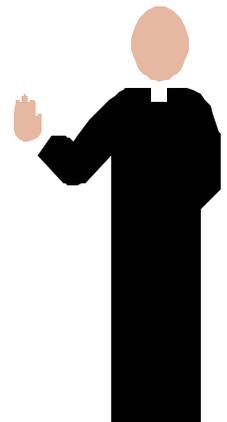
Review - Write the correct word in the blank.

1. The disciples were f_____.
2. J_____ helped them catch many fish.
3. Jesus gave them food to e_____.
4. Jesus asked P_____ three times if he loved Jesus.
5. Jesus said to Peter, "Feed My l_____."
6. We are fed with the words from the B_____.

Word Box

Peter
Bible
Jesus
lamb
fishing
eat

Activity One - Circle the pictures that show ways to tell others about Jesus.



Passage

"The Lord is my shepherd." Psalm 23:1

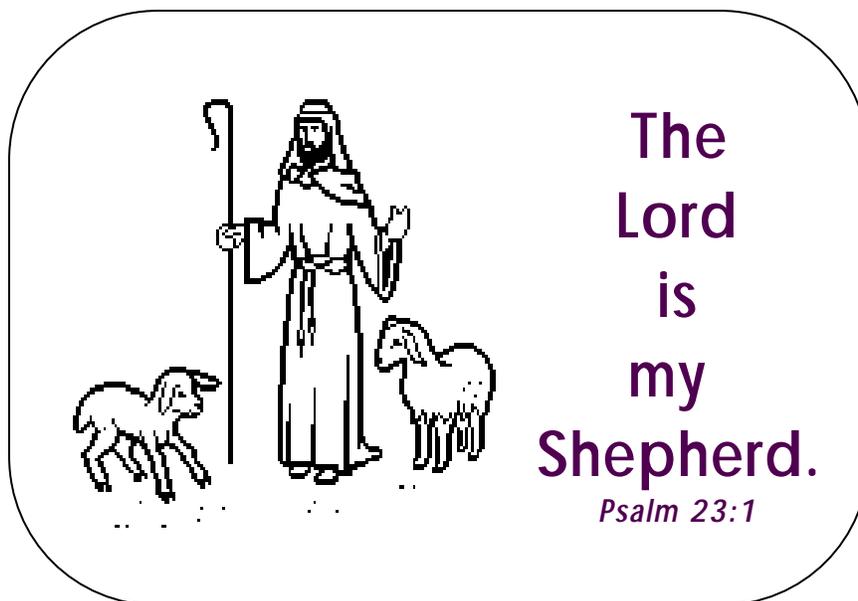
Hymn - TLH #428 v. 1

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free.

Prayer

Jesus,
We thank You for forgiving us our sins and making us lambs in Your flock. Lead us safely home to heaven. Amen.

Activity Two - Color this picture. Then cut it out. It can be made into a magnet, necklace, etc.



Jesus Appears to the Disciples in Galilee

John 21:1-17



The Story

After the events of Easter Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, James and John, and two other disciples were together. Peter said to them, "I am going fishing."

They said to him, "We are going with you." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning had come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?"

They answered Him, "No." He said to them, "Let your net down on the right side of the boat, and you will find some fish." So they cast, and now they were not able to pull it up because of the many fish.

John said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Peter heard that it was the Lord, he plunged into the sea. But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land), dragging the net with fish. Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught."

Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. Jesus said to

them, "Come and eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?"; knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus then came and took the bread and fish and gave it to them.

This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Peter, "Simon Peter, do you love Me more than these?"

Peter said to Jesus, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Feed My lambs."

He said to Peter again a second time, "Simon Peter, do you love Me?"

Peter said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

He said to him the third time, "Simon Peter, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?"

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

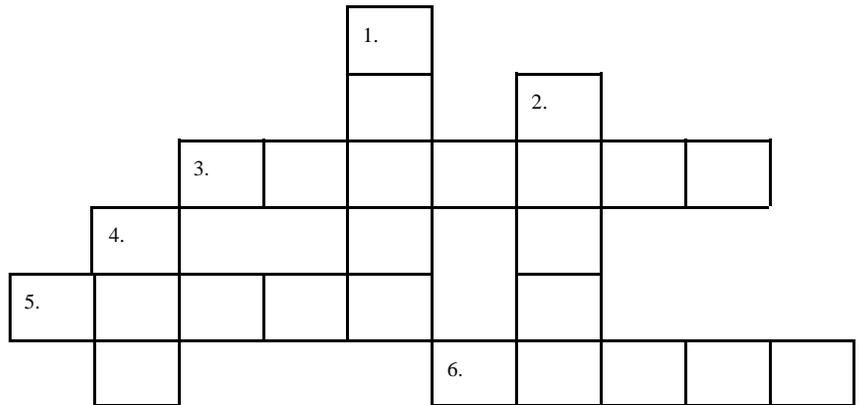
Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep."

Review - Fill in the Crossword Puzzle with the words from the box.

Word Box
 Peter Bible Jesus lambs fishing eat

Across

- 3. The disciples were ____.
- 5. Jesus said to Peter, "Feed My ____."
- 6. Jesus asked ____ three times if he loved Jesus.



Down

- 1. ____ helped them catch many fish.
- 2. We are fed with the words from the ____.
- 4. Jesus gave them food to ____.

Activity One - Match the names with the pictures. These are some people that tell us about Jesus.

Pastor

Grandparents

Choir

Teacher

Parents



Passages

"The Lord is my shepherd." Psalm 23:1

"I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Psalm 23:6

Hymn - TLH #428 v. 1, 4

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free.

I am trusting Thee to guide me;
Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying
All my need.

Prayer

Jesus,

We thank You for forgiving us our sins and making us lambs in Your flock.
Lead us safely home to heaven. Amen.

Activity Two - Cut out this picture. It can be made into a magnet, necklace, etc.



The
Lord
is
my
Shepherd.
Psalm 23:1

Jesus Appears to the Disciples in Galilee

John 21:1-17

"Do you love Me?"

What would you answer Jesus if He asked you that question.

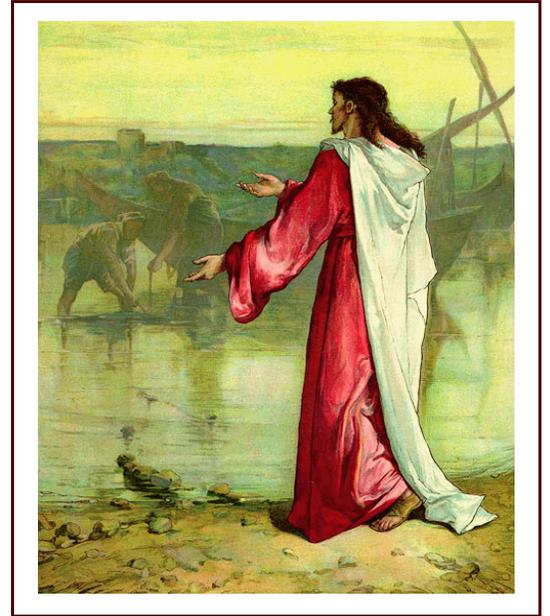
What would you answer if Jesus asked that same question three times?

What command does Jesus give Peter and all of us?

Prayer

Dear Father in Heaven,

Be with us today during our Sunday School class as we study Your Holy Word. Help us to listen, learn and take to heart all that Your Holy Scripture teaches in this lesson. Cause Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts that we too can say, Yes, Lord, we love You!" Amen.



The Story - John 21:1-17

After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: {2} Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. {3} Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing."

They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. {4} But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was

Jesus. {5} Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?"

They answered Him, "No." {6} And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

{7} Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. {8} But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land,



but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. {9} Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. {10} Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught."

{11} Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. {12} Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?"; knowing that it was the Lord. {13} Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish.

{14} This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

{15} So when they had eaten

breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

{16} He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

{17} He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?"

And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep."

Outer Aim - The resurrected Savior appeared to His disciples at Galilee as He promised. There, He reminds them of His loving care and forgiveness in directing His called shepherds to, "Feed My lambs and feed My sheep."

Class Discussion - Answer these questions with the rest of your class. Be sure to share your answers.

When did you become one of Jesus' lambs?

Who in your life brings you God's Word?

1. _____

4. _____

2. _____

5. _____

3. _____

6. _____

Rearrange the letters in () to find the words for this sentence.

We are fed with God's Word both the (AWL)_____ and the (LSGPOE)_____.

Review - Use the words from John 21 to fill in the letters of the missing words. The numbered letters will give you the answer to the last question.

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 1. | Peter was going to go __ at the beginning of this lesson. | 1. | _ _ _ _ _
1 |
| 2. | Thomas, Nathanael, the sons of __, and two other disciples went with Peter. | 2. | _ _ _ _ _
2 3 4 |
| 3. | They did not recognize Jesus when He called, "Children, have you any __?" | 3. | _ _ _ _ |
| 4. | When they cast their nets on the right side of the boat as Jesus told them a __ of fish were in the net. | 4. | _ _ _ _ _
5 7 |
| 5. | Peter __ into the sea when he was told that Jesus was on shore. | 5. | _ _ _ _ _ |
| 6. | Jesus said, "Come and eat __." | 6. | _ _ _ _ _
10 8 11 |
| 7. | Jesus asked Peter, "Do __ love __?" three times. | 7. | _ _ _ love _ _
6 9 |
| 8. | What did Jesus tell Peter to do? | 8. | _ _ _ _ _
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 |

Inner Aim - We recognize God's hand in our lives - the forgiving love and the life-giving care of Jesus for His disciples and all people.

What God Tells Us - Tell how each of these jobs would follow Jesus command to, "Feed My Lambs", "Tend My Sheep."

Pastor

Christian Day School Teacher/Sunday School Teacher

Father/Mother

Factory Worker

Student

Passage

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Psalms 23:1-3

Hymn

 - TLH #428 stanzas 1-4

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
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I am trusting Thee for pardon;
At Thy feet I bow,
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John 21:1-17

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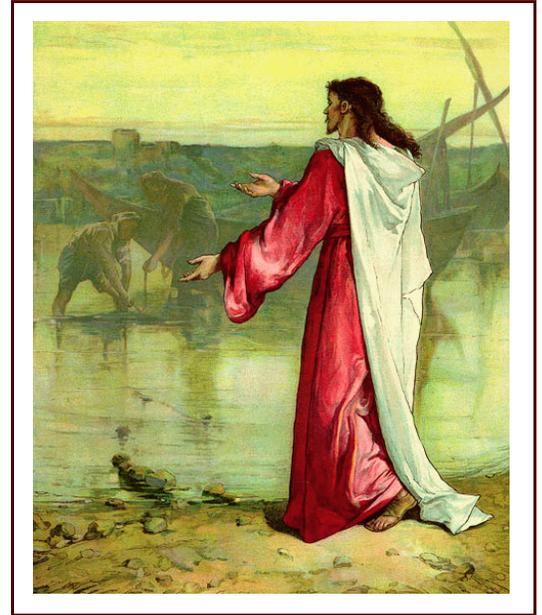
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The Story - John 21:1-17

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they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

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Passage

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He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Psalm 23

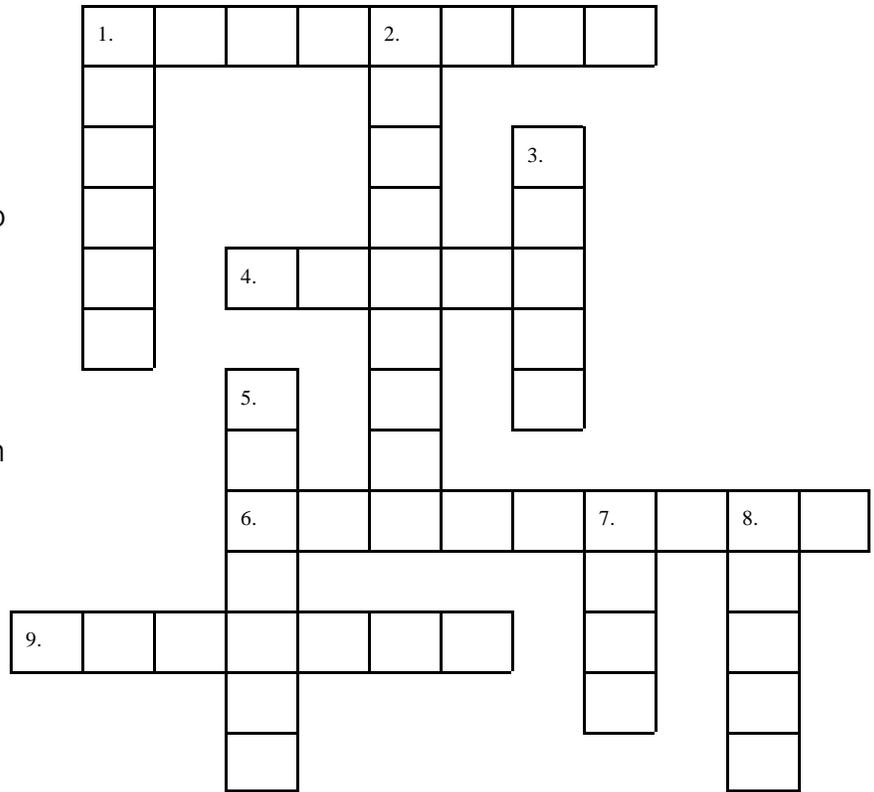
Review - Fill in the Crossword Puzzle with the correct answers from John 21.

Across

1. Jesus showed Himself at the Sea of ____.
4. Jesus said, "Cast your net on the ____ side of the boat."
6. Jesus made ____ for the disciples to eat.
9. The disciples had one ____ and fifty-three fish in the net.

Down

1. ____ called the Twin was fishing with the others.
2. The disciples did not ____ Jesus at first.
3. ____ plunged into the water when he heard that Jesus was the stranger on shore.
5. The sons of ____ were also fishing.
7. Jesus said to Peter, " ____ My lambs."
8. Jesus also said, "Tend my ____."



Inner Aim - We recognize God's hand in our lives - the forgiving love and the life-giving care of Jesus for His disciples and all people.

What God Tells Us - Choose the correct letter to fill in the blank.

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. ____ The ____ works through God's Word to bring us to faith. | A. forgiveness |
| 2. ____ The ____ shows us our sin. | B. eternity |
| 3. ____ The ____ shows us our Savior. | C. gospel |
| 4. ____ We have ____ because of Jesus' death and resurrection. | D. Holy Spirit |
| 5. ____ Jesus commands us to, "Go into all the world and ____ the Gospel to all creatures." | E. preach |
| 6. ____ As God's lamb I look forward to ____ in heaven. | F. law |

Your Turn

What job or jobs might you consider so that you can, "Feed God's Lambs", and "Tend God's Sheep"? Share and discuss your answer with the class.

Hymn - TLH #428

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free.

I am trusting Thee for pardon;
At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy
Trusting now.

I am trusting Thee for cleansing
In the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy
By Thy blood.

I am trusting Thee to guide me;
Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying
All my need.

I am trusting Thee for power;
Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me
Must prevail.

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever
And for all.

Prayer

Lord Jesus,
We too have often sinned by denying You. Thank You for forgiving us and for being our Good Shepherd. Please help us to consider being a pastor or teacher to feed Your lambs. Lead us safely home to You. Amen.