

## **Breakfast on the Beach with Jesus - John 21: 1-14**

I wonder what the disciples thought when the man on the shore said to throw their net on the other side of the boat?

I wonder what they were thinking when they caught 153 large fish?

I wonder how the disciples felt when they realized the man was Jesus?

I wonder why Peter jumped out of the boat to go see Jesus?

I wonder what would it be like to have breakfast with Jesus?

I wonder what Jesus and the disciples talked about as they ate breakfast together?

I wonder what Jesus might say to me?

### **Preschool Response Activities**

#### **Fishing Boats**

Act out the story together, using large boxes or laundry baskets (big enough for one or two kids to sit in) as boats. If using boxes, decorate the boats with crayons. Spread plastic fish or fish shapes cut out of paper on the floor around the boxes. Let the kids take turns being fishermen in the “boats.” Show them how to throw their nets (a towel or small blanket) over the side of the boats to catch fish. When Jesus tells them to throw the nets on the other side of the boat, make the fish jump into the nets. When the nets are full, the fishermen in the boats can pull in the nets. As you gather on the beach, share a snack with Jesus of goldfish and bread.

#### **Fish for Breakfast?**

Have you ever had fish for breakfast? What are your favorite breakfast foods?

What would be your perfect breakfast? Who makes breakfast for you at home? After you discuss these questions, wonder together, “What would it be like to have breakfast with Jesus?”

Give each family member a paper plate and let them draw or cut out and glue on magazine pictures to illustrate what they imagine Jesus would make for them. When the plates are completed, let each person share what they illustrated and why they chose those foods.

For further discussion, ask: If you could have breakfast with anyone, who would it be? Why would you want to eat with that person?

#### **Breakfast Together**

Jesus had many friends who were excited to discover He was alive. However, it was a difficult thing for them to comprehend. Jesus’ friends were fishing and at first did not realize that the man on the shore was Jesus until they caught a net full of fish. Jesus cooked breakfast for his friends and spent time with them. As you eat breakfast (or

another meal or snack) with your preschooler, talk about what it must have been like for them to see Jesus. How exciting would that have been? How must they have felt?

## **Elementary Response Activities**

### **Breakfast for a Friend**

This story represents the third time Jesus appears to his followers after rising from the dead. Like the other times, Jesus was ready to share a meal with them. I wonder why eating together was important to Jesus? In today's story, Jesus prepares breakfast for his friends after they have fished all night. At first they didn't recognize it was him standing on the shore, but I wonder how they felt when they realized it was their master, teacher and king who was once again serving them, first by telling them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat, then by preparing a meal for them?

Think of someone you know who would be blessed by receiving the gift of a breakfast meal. What would you want to include? Maybe pancake mix, eggs, syrup? Put your items in a basket or a sack you decorate and deliver. Attach a handmade card explaining what inspired your desire to share breakfast with them.

### **Build It!**

Using Legos or other building materials to create and retell this story. I wonder what part of the story is most important to you?

### **Miracles of Jesus**

Jesus was still performing miracles right up until the time he ascended into heaven to be with God. Talk about this miraculous catch of fish. I wonder why Jesus wanted to show his power in this way?

How many miracles of Jesus can you name?

10? 20? Look through the gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John - to make a list.

Were you surprised by any of these stories?