

## Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples (John 21)

### Narrator's Script

Written by Amy Crane, adapted from *Today's English Version*

Characters: John (the narrator), and actors Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, James, John, and two other unnamed disciples.

Props: A fish (either a toy or a paper fish), a boat, fishing net, costumes

[Suggested actions and responses are in brackets. Pause in the narration and encourage the students to use their imagination to expand upon the little bit of detail in the Bible. Note that there should be a student portraying John in the drama as well as someone being John the narrator.]

Hello. I am John, one of Jesus' disciples. I would like to share with you one of many stories about Jesus. In fact, I am thinking about writing these stories down in a book. Help me enact this story as I tell it. When I point this fish [show the fish] at the actors, put some action behind my words! Let's practice. "All of the disciples were sitting around."

[Point the fish.]

Hey, good job. You all sat around! Okay. Let's get started with our story. Listen carefully to my words so you know what to do!

After the raising up of Jesus, we disciples were uncertain what we should do. So we spent a lot of time just hanging out together. We saw Jesus several times after his resurrection. He appeared once to some of us at Lake Galilee. This is how it happened: Seven of us disciples were all-together one evening, and Peter decided to go fishing.

[Point the fish: Peter says he is going fishing and the others decide to go along.]

We went out in a boat, but it was just one of those awful nights. We did not catch a thing!

[Point the fish: fishing and net-throwing action, grumbling]

As the sun was rising, we saw a man walking on the shore. He called to us to see how the fishing was.

[Point the fish: Jesus asks if they caught anything. They answer no. Jesus tells them to throw the net out on the right side of the boat.]

We threw the net out to the right.

Guess what!? We could not pull the net back in because we had caught so many fish!!

[Point the fish: throw net, pull net as if it were heavy]

Well, this reminded me of the story Peter had told me about when he met Jesus so long ago, before Peter was a disciple, when he was just a fisherman. I said to Peter, "It's the Lord!"

You know how impulsive Peter can be. Well, he leaped into the water, hoping to get to shore faster than the boat. Such splashing!

[Point the fish: leap out of the boat and "swim" to shore.]

## Easter Through the Eyes of Peter – Drama Workshop – Script

The net full of fish was *too heavy* to pull into the boat, so we towed it as we rowed ashore. We got there about the same time as Peter.

[Point the fish: row and tow!]

When we arrived on shore, we saw Jesus had already built a fire to cook the fish, and he had some bread. We stood looking at him, still a little shy and uncertain.

[Point the fish: Jesus asks for some fish; disciples look amazed and whisper as they gather some fish.]

Jesus told us to come and eat. He broke the bread and blessed it, and did the same with the fish.

[Point the fish.]

After we had eaten, Jesus and Peter had an unusual conversation.

[Point the fish: Jesus asks Peter, “Do you love me?” Peter answers, “Yes, Lord, you know that I do.”]

Three times Jesus asked the same question and Peter gave the same answer.

[Point the fish: Jesus says to Peter “Follow me!”]

Later, Peter explained how he had denied Jesus three times. Then I understood why he was so upset and why Jesus asked the question three times. Hmm, “Take care of my sheep? I think I need to get busy!

==The End==

### Resources:

Bartholomew, Gilbert L. “Jesus and Peter Talk after the Resurrection.” *The Journal of Biblical Storytelling*, 1999 (volume 9, number 1).

Christine OC. “Easter through Peter’s Eyes: Denial/Repentance/Forgiveness – Bible Skills & Games Workshop.” *Rotation.org*. Aug. 7, 2003.

Crane, Amy. “Jesus and Peter: No Matter What, God Gives Me Another Chance. (A creative dramatics lesson plan).” *Rotation.org*. 2001.

Filson, Floyd V. *The Layman’s Bible Commentary: John (volume 19)*. John Knox Press, 1963.

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