



Jesus Lives Today

Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:50-53;
John 21:1-14; Acts 1:3-11

Jesus had died, but now He was alive again. Jesus' friends were so happy that Jesus was alive! Jesus stayed with His friends for many days. Jesus talked with them about many things. He loved His friends! Once when they were fishing, Jesus helped them catch lots of fish. Their nets were so full of fish that the friends could barely lift them up from the water! That same day Jesus cooked some breakfast for His friends. Jesus told them that someday soon He would be going back to heaven.

Then the day came when it was time for Jesus to go back to heaven. He walked with His friends out in the country. Jesus said to His friends, "Remember that I am with you always. I will watch over you and take care of you. Someday I will come back, and we will be together in heaven." Jesus wanted them to know that even though they wouldn't see Jesus with their eyes, He was still with them. Jesus' friends listened quietly. "After I am gone," Jesus said, "go and tell people everywhere that I love them."

Then Jesus rose up off the ground! Jesus' friends must have been surprised! Jesus went up and up and UP, until He was in the clouds, and then His friends couldn't see Him anymore. They stood there, looking up.

Suddenly, there were two angels standing beside the friends. The angels said, "Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has gone to heaven! Jesus will come back again someday." Jesus' friends were very glad! Now they knew Jesus was going to come back, just as He had promised. And they were glad because Jesus is alive and had promised to always be with them. And He will always be with us, too!

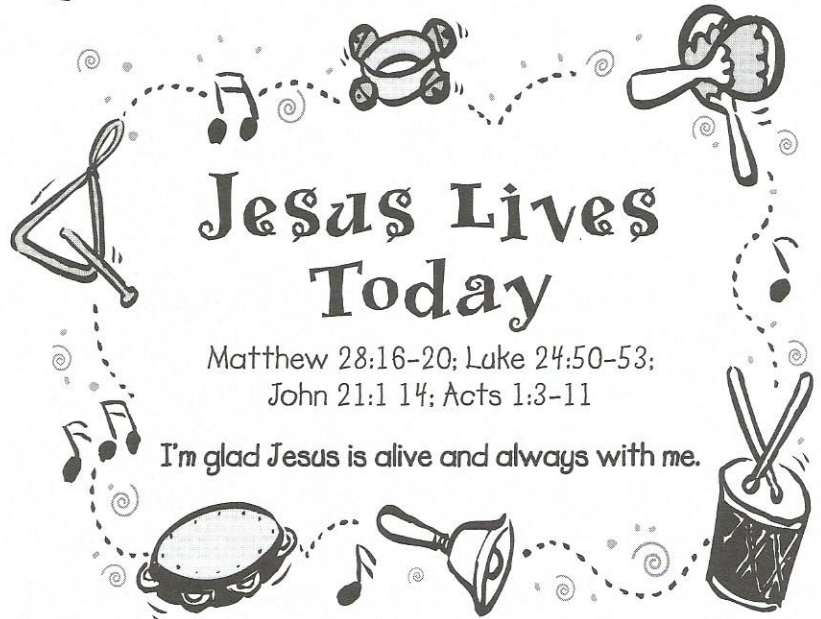
Let's Go Fishing

Collect

Bible, light blue construction paper, markers, 3x6-inch (7.5x15-cm) brown paper rectangles for boats, glue, 6-inch (15-cm) nylon net fabric squares for fishnets, fish-shaped crackers; optional—craft sticks.

Do

Children draw waves on blue paper and glue boats and one corner of fish nets onto paper. Children glue fish crackers in waves or under nets. (Optional: Children glue craft sticks to boats to make masts.)

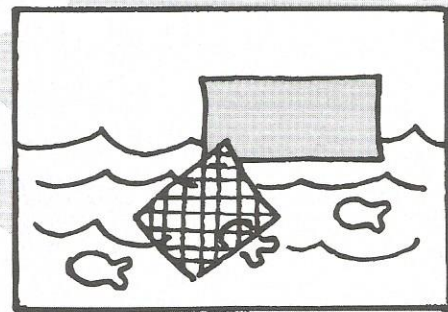


Talk About

- ☀ In our Bible story today, Jesus came to see His friends while they were fishing. Jesus helped them fill their nets with lots of fish! Jesus' friends were glad Jesus is alive. Jesus promised to always be with them. Let's make fishing pictures to remind us of today's story.
- ☀ Ethan, where do you like to go? Jesus is with you at your friend's house. I'm glad Jesus is alive and always with us.
- ☀ Jesus' friends were glad to hear His promise to always be with them. They were glad to know that Jesus is alive. Mackenzie, where do you like to play? Jesus is with you in your backyard.

Enrichment Ideas

1. Children draw stick-figure fishermen on boats.
2. Children glue blue tissue-paper squares to their ocean scenes.
3. Children use watercolors to paint fishing scenes. After paint is dry, children glue fish crackers to their papers.



Jesus' Friends Go Fishing

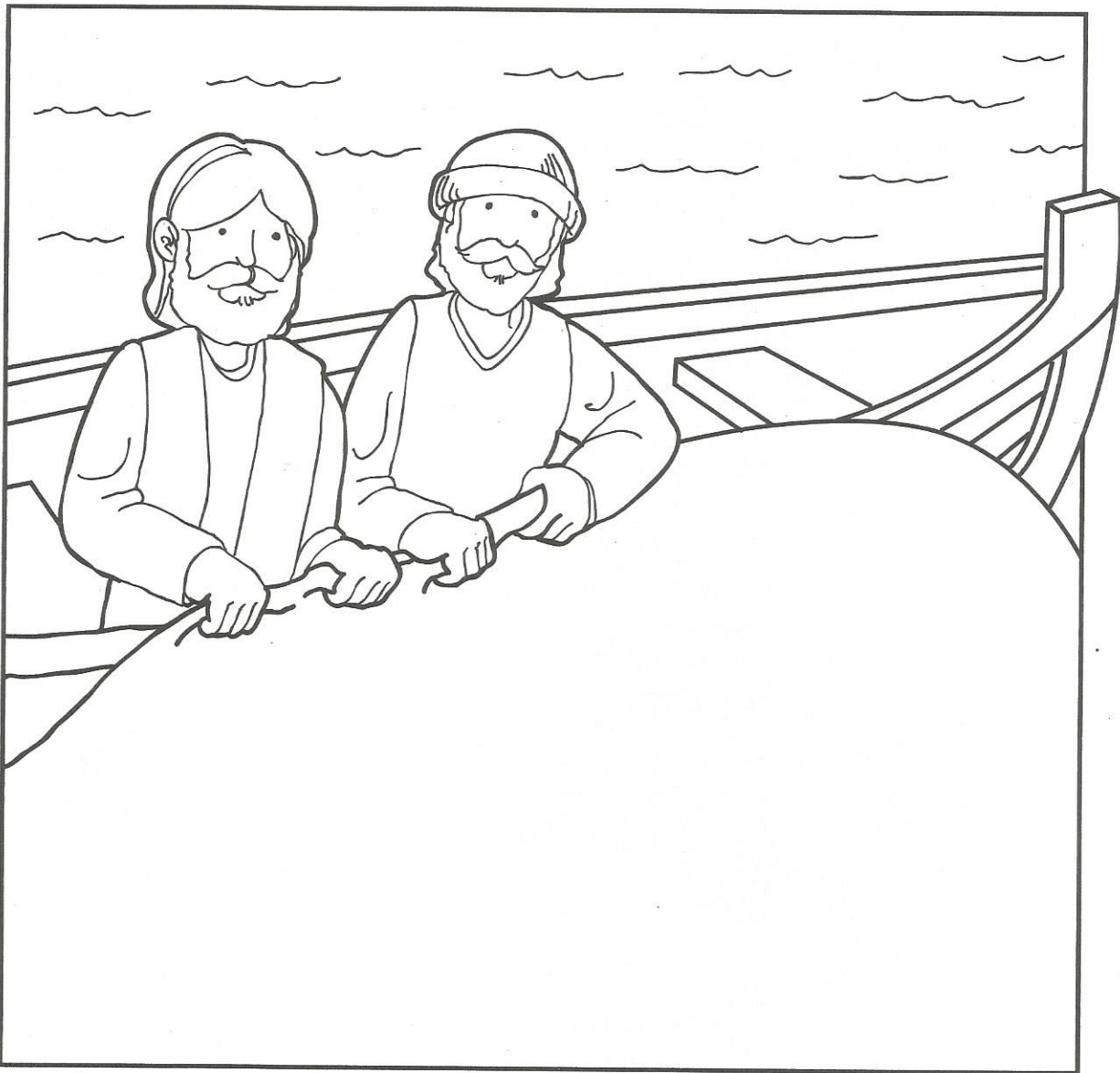
John 21:3-14

Fishermen Picture

Peter and some of Jesus' friends went fishing. They fished and fished and fished all night, but they did not catch any fish. Then Jesus told them where to throw their nets. When they obeyed Jesus, they caught 153 fish!

Color the picture of Jesus' friends in the boat. Your teacher will give you a piece of netting and help you glue it to the boat. Your teacher also will give you some fish to put in the net you made.

Take home the picture to help you remember this great miracle Jesus did.



For the Teacher: Provide each child with a hair net, a piece of nylon net or some netting cut from produce bags. Help the children glue the nets to their pictures, making sure to glue the nets into pocket shapes so they will hold the paper fish. Cut the fish from colorful construction paper.

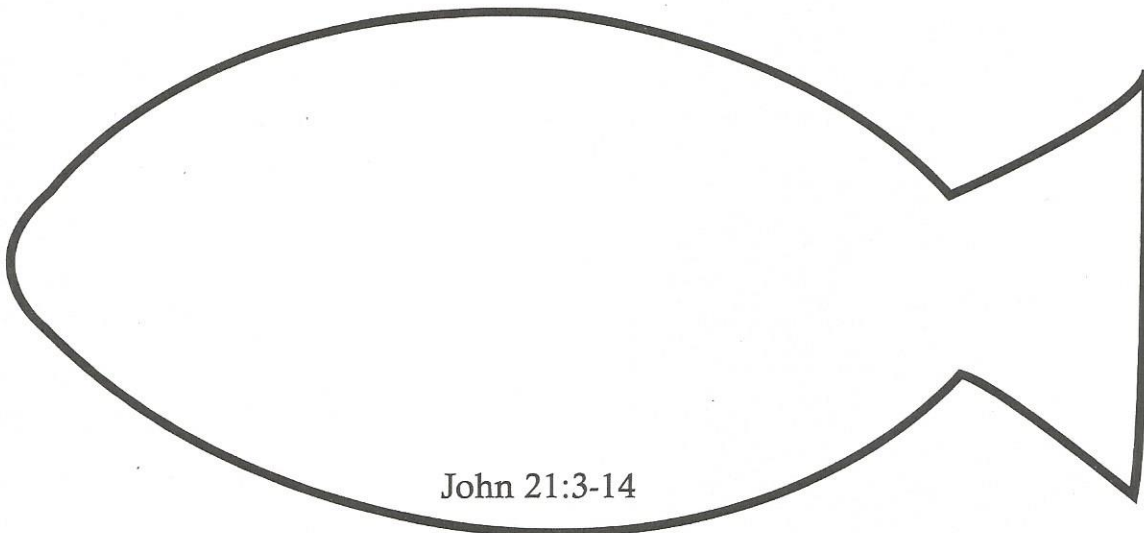
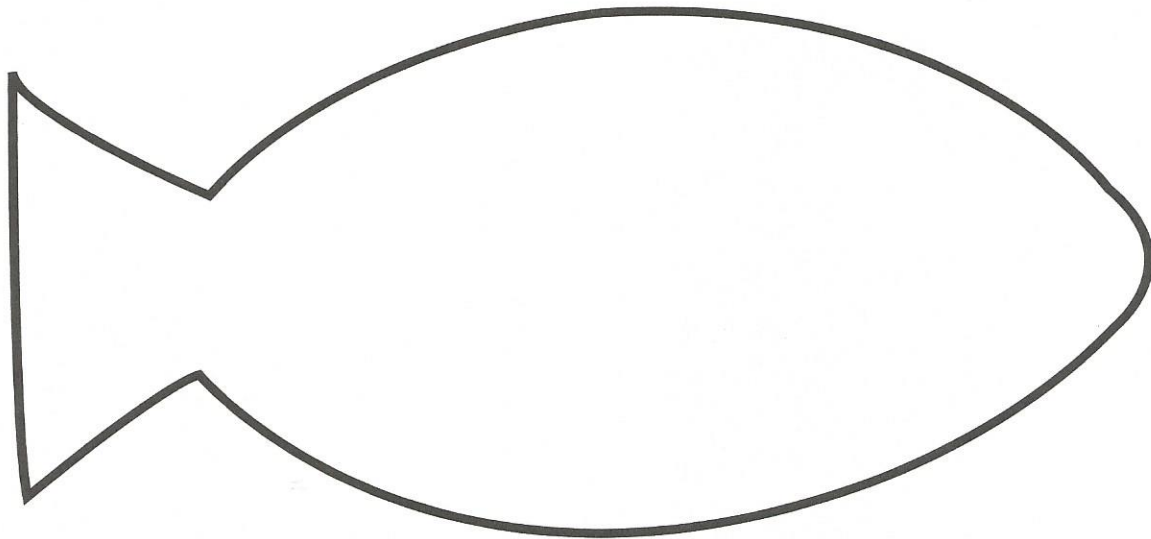
Jesus' Friends Go Fishing

John 21:3-14

Puffy Fish

Peter and his friends had been out in their boat all night but they hadn't caught any fish. Then Jesus told them where to throw their nets so they could catch some fish. When they obeyed Jesus, they caught 153 fish!

Decorate both fish with crayons, markers or paint. Be sure to draw an eye on each fish. Your teacher will help you staple the two fish together around the edges, leaving open a small space for stuffing with tissue. When the fish is stuffed, finish stapling the fish closed. Hang up the fish at home to remind you of this great miracle Jesus did for His friends.



John 21:3-14



For the Teacher: Precut the fish. After the children have decorated their fish, assist in stapling around the edges and in lightly stuffing the fish with tissue. Staple the openings closed and attach yarn hangers. Cover the staples with clear tape to avoid injury.

