

Breakfast on the Beach.

Aim

Children will experience the Breakfast on the Beach story and discover that Jesus is always with us.

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Bible Passage

John 21:1-14

Introduction

Our story today is set on a beach with the disciples fishing out to sea and ends with a breakfast together. You could start this session with a breakfast or, if you would like to do this activity later, it could be a lunch or even dinner! If warm enough, sit outside and pretend you are at the seaside or you could make a beach inside!

Game Time

Fishing Lucky Dip - you will need; fish shapes cut from card and a filled bucket or container (this will need to be filled with something to cover the fish; for example, shredded paper, straw or even crumpled paper). Put the fish in the bucket and add the covering. Take in turns to have a 'lucky dip' and pull out the fish. See who can catch the most. If you are unable to find any, talk about today's story and how the disciples had been unable to find fish all night but Jesus helped them just as he can help us.

Bible Time

Why not continue your session outside? Begin by asking each child to share their favourite breakfast food. Did anyone answer fish? Tell the children that in today's Bible story Jesus makes his friends breakfast on the beach. Ask them to listen and discover what Jesus made for breakfast.

Story - Have the children close their eyes and imagine being at the beach early in the morning. What can they see and hear? Read John 21:4-14 from a children's Bible.

This is the third time that Jesus had appeared to the disciples after his death and yet, they still didn't recognise him. Discuss the story and here are a few questions you could use:

- Why do you think the disciples didn't recognize Jesus?
- What did Jesus ask the disciples?
- What happened at the end of the story?
- What helped the disciples figure out that it was Jesus?
- What did Jesus do for the disciples?
- Do we forget Jesus sometimes?
- Do you think Jesus welcomes us back, even when we forget him or do not recognize him?

In the story of Jesus appearing to the disciples on the beach, overflowing their nets with fish, and serving them breakfast, we are reminded of the way we continually turn away from Jesus, forgetting his love and power as we are consumed with our jobs, families, possessions, and so much more, and yet he's always there to call us back and forgive us and provide us with an abundance.

Craft Time

1. A net full of fish - You will need; a paper plate, some fish from your game earlier, cling film, cellotape, pens and stickers. Decorate some of the fish using pens and/or stickers. Put them on a paper plate and cover with cling film, using the cellotape to secure into place. Use a black pen to draw lines across the cling film so that the fish look like they are caught in a net just as the disciples caught lots of fish with the help of Jesus. On the plate write the words; 'Jesus is always with me'.

You can find this craft of the TMC Facebook page.

2. Fish biscuits - Why not make some fish shaped biscuits to share and enjoy with your picnic! You may have a favourite biscuit recipe but here is one you could use;

Ingredients = 250g butter, 140g caster sugar, 300g sifted plain flour, 1 egg yolk, 2tsp vanilla extract.

- Mix the butter and sugar together until its really light and fluffy.
- Add the egg yolk and vanilla to the mix
- Add the flour and mix slowly (the dough should not be too wet)
- Knead the dough into a ball and put it in the fridge to chill for 30 minutes
- Roll out the dough to about the thickness of a pound coin
- Use a fish shaped cutter or a small round biscuit cutter
- Grease a baking tray and lay out the biscuits with a little gap between each one
- Bake in a preheated oven at 180°C (gas mark 4) for 12-15 minutes.
- Slide them off the tray and cool on a rack
- Decorate with icing or use smarties to make fish scales



Worship Time

Take a look at the TMC Facebook page for songs that you can join in with today. This week Ruby, Iris and Flora have recorded a song for us to share - 'Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday...'. Listen to the words - 'you are with me always'. The song can also be found on You're a Star CD by Chris Harding.

Tanya is also on the Facebook page singing 'You are my living King'.

Prayer Time

Use a few of the fish you cut for the game at the start of the session. Ask the children to write things on the fish that they would like to pray for and you could join in with this too. This could be something from the story or in their lives. Use these as a basis for your prayer time. The fish can be kept and hung on a line for you to pray over during the week. You could end your prayer time with the following words;

Dear Jesus, thank you for your forgiveness and for feeding us and reminding us of your love even when we have forget you. Amen.