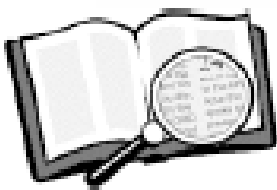


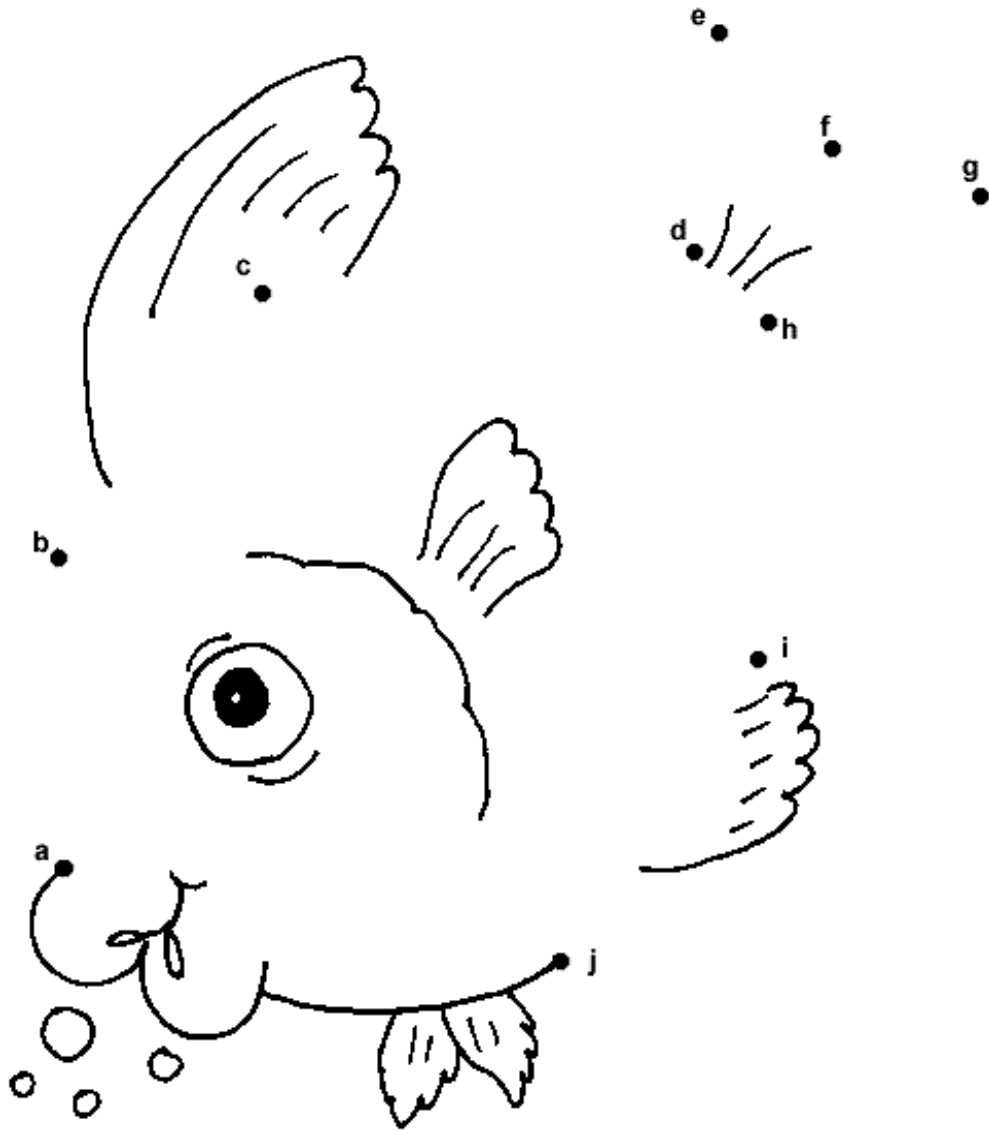
The Miraculous Catch of Fish

After Jesus had risen from the dead, he appeared to the disciples a third time by the Sea of Galilee. Jesus asked for food. But the disciples didn't have any because they didn't catch any fish. So Jesus performed a miracle and the disciples got plenty of fish. Then they recognized him. After having breakfast, Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved him (as many times as he denied Jesus). Each time Peter said "Yes!" Jesus forgave Peter for denying him. Then Jesus told Peter, "Feed my sheep," to care for those who believe in him.



“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9

What did the disciples eat for breakfast? Connect the dots to find out.



Why did Jesus ask Peter if he loved him?



Lesson 27

The Miraculous Catch of Fish

Bible Text: John 21

Key Verse: 1 John 1:9

Purpose: The children will understand that Jesus wants to forgive us when we sin.

Please note!

Plan suitable activities for your group of children. The following activities can be adapted depending on the group's size, age, ability, the amount of time available, etc.

I. Lesson

Before working on the coloring page, tell the children about the miraculous catch of fishing after the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and about how Jesus forgave Peter from John 21.

For younger children:

Tell the children the story from John 21. Explain Jesus' care for his disciples and help them understand what happened.

For older children:

1. Read John 21:1-13. Explain how the Lord cares for his disciples. Many applications can be drawn from this passage. Discuss these using the following questions:

- Why did Jesus appear beside the Sea of Galilee?
 - The disciples were fishing, but they hadn't caught any fish. They had a problem, and Jesus came and helped them.
- Why does Jesus ask for food?
 - Because he knew that they didn't have anything to eat. He wanted the disciples to admit that they had a problem.
- How does Jesus help them?
 - He performs a miracle, telling the disciples to throw out their net on the right side of the boat. So they did and their problem was solved.
- How many fish did the disciples catch?
 - Plenty of fish: 153 big fish.
- Where does Jesus invite them?
 - To have breakfast. Jesus takes care of the disciples.
- Did the disciples recognize Jesus?
 - Yes. They knew he was the Lord.

2. Read John 21:15-25. Jesus cares about Peter. Discuss this text:

Jesus spoke to Peter because he knew that he was feeling bad about denying him. Jesus knew that Peter had repented and that he loved him very much. Three times Jesus asked Peter if he loved him. Three times Peter answered, "Yes." Jesus forgave Peter and gave him the honor of working

for him. Jesus told Peter, “Feed My sheep!” Peter followed Jesus his entire life and he became a brave apostle.

II. Activities

1. Key Verse

a. Read the verse out loud.

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9

b. Explain the verse.

What do you do to a dirty coat? You wash it. But before washing it, we need to know that it is dirty. Can the coat clean itself? No. We have to clean it. When we sin, our souls get dirty. We can't clean this dirt (the sin) from our soul, but Jesus can. So to be clean again, we need to confess our sin to the Lord. Then he will forgive us and make us clean again. (Refer to Peter's example.)

c. Help the children memorize the verse.

2. Review questions for the children:

- When did Jesus appear beside the Sea of Galilee?
- Why did he appear to the disciples?
- What miracle did he perform there, beside the Sea of Galilee?
- Can Jesus perform miracles today?
- Does Jesus know our needs?
- Is he ready to help us?
- Why did Jesus talk to Peter?
- Why did Jesus ask Peter if he loved him?
- What mission did Peter receive?
- When was the last time you sinned? What did you do?
- What did you do in order for Jesus to forgive you?
- How do you know that Jesus forgave you?

III. Conclusion:

We all sin - that's what the Bible says. There is no one who does not sin. But, God wants to forgive us. All we have to do is to be sorry for our sin, to confess it to God. We must admit that we love God and to try not to sin again. The Lord forgives our sins if we confess them and gives us the task of serving him. Peter is a good example of God's forgiveness.