



John 21:1-19 (NIV)

Afterwards Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³ 'I'm going out to fish,' Simon Peter told them, and they said, 'We'll go with you.' So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus.

⁵ He called out to them, 'Friends, haven't you any fish?'

'No,' they answered.

⁶ He said, 'Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.' When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, 'It is the Lord,' he wrapped his outer garment round him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred metres. ⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' ¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples dared ask him, 'Who are you?' They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?'

'Yes, Lord,' he said, 'you know that I love you.'

Jesus said, 'Feed my lambs.'

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?'

He answered, 'Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.'

Jesus said, 'Take care of my sheep.'

¹⁷ The third time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?'

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' He said, 'Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.'

Jesus said, 'Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.' ¹⁹ Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, 'Follow me!'

Talking about the passage:

Jesus appears to his disciples again; this is the third time after his resurrection. See if your family can remember the other two times. The sermon title is "The Promise of Reconciliation", and that is a very clear and visual thing that is in v15-19, especially for the Boulders age group, and probably most of the children in Rocks.

Something that might be helpful is to think about John 21 with the question what can Jesus do /what is Jesus like now that he is risen?

The story of Jesus providing fish shows us that **Jesus still has power over nature.**

The discussion Jesus has with Peter shows how Jesus gives Peter the chance to 'undo' his denial of Jesus. Peter has a fresh start and Jesus shows he still wants to use Peter.

Jesus has power to forgive.

For Pebbles

If you have one the Beginner's Bible retells this story 'A Net Full Of Fish' -talk about this story reminding us again that Jesus is alive and powerful.

For Rocks

Remind them or tell them of the time that just before Jesus died, Peter was horrible to Jesus, three times Peter pretended not to know him. Use the 3 heart Symbols with a cross to represent this. As Jesus and Peter were walking along the beach Jesus asked Peter if he loved him (use the heart with the question mark to represent this) and Peter answered yes I love you (use the heart with a tick)

You could ask them how they would feel if someone pretended, they didn't know them. Would they still want to be friends?

Jesus still wanted Peter as a friend so gave Peter a chance to say sorry for every time Peter had said he didn't know Jesus.

You can talk about how Jesus is always ready to forgive us too if we ask Him, even if we keep doing the same thing wrong. Jesus will forgive us when we ask Him too.

For Boulders

As for Rocks, use the hearts to create a visual picture of what is going on, There is an opportunity to talk about how we can feel guilty because we sin, sometimes we can even think that our sins are just too bad to be forgiven, or God will never really treat us the same again because we have sinned.

Remind them that Jesus can forgive all and every sin, and because we are really forgiven, we can be just as good friends as we were when we first became friends with Jesus.

Something to pray

Thank God that Jesus is still powerful now that he is alive again.

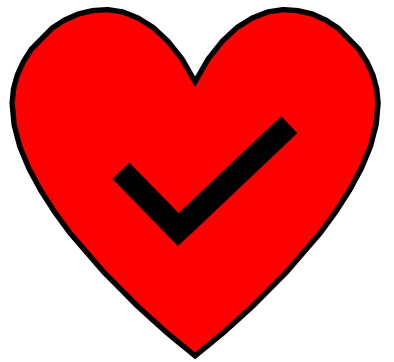
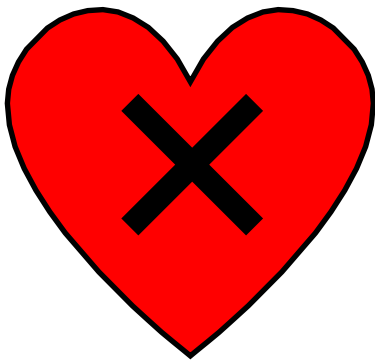
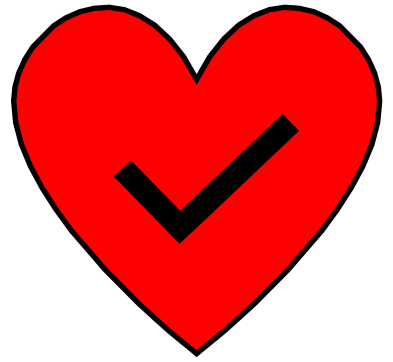
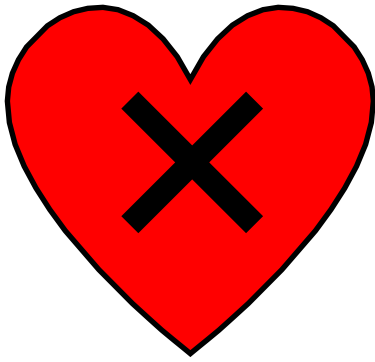
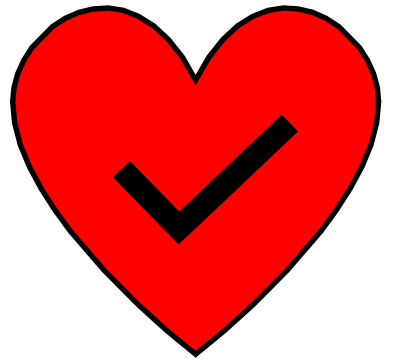
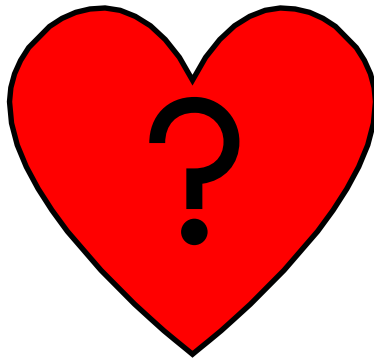
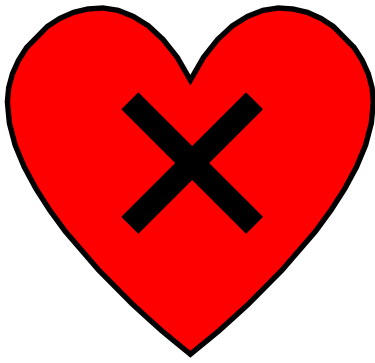
Thank Jesus that he died so that he can forgive us.

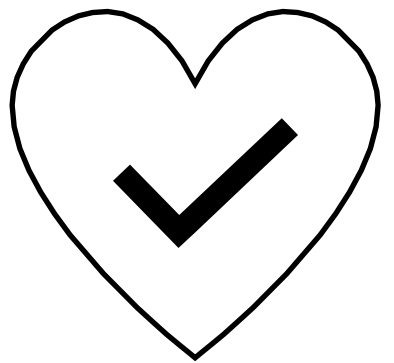
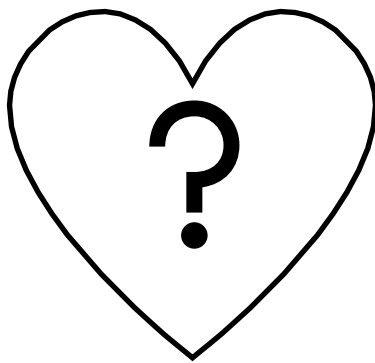
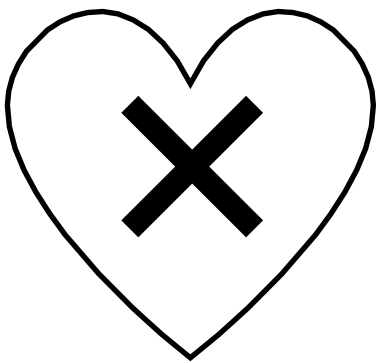
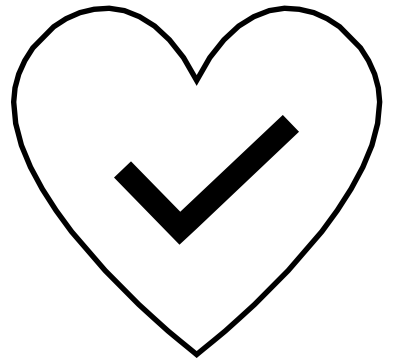
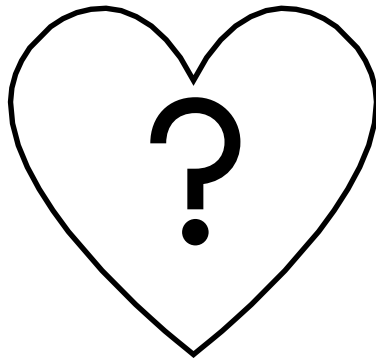
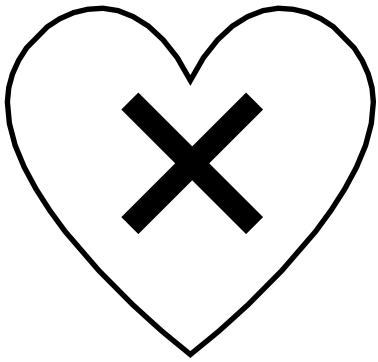
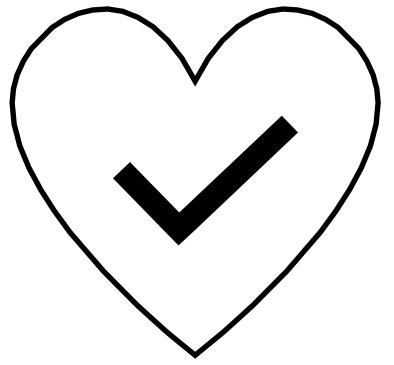
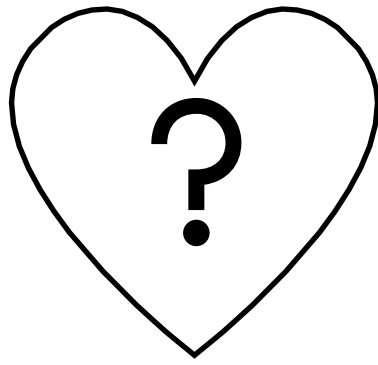
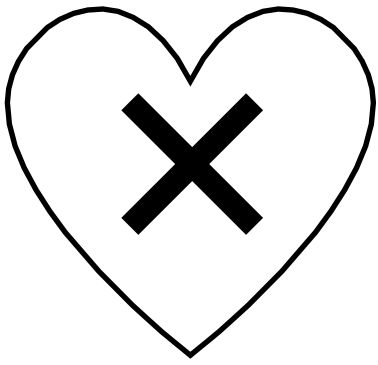
Ask Jesus to help us remember we are forgiven, and our friendship is as good as new when we say sorry to him.

Take time as a family to think about the things that you need to say sorry to Jesus for.

Thank him for hearing you and forgiving you.

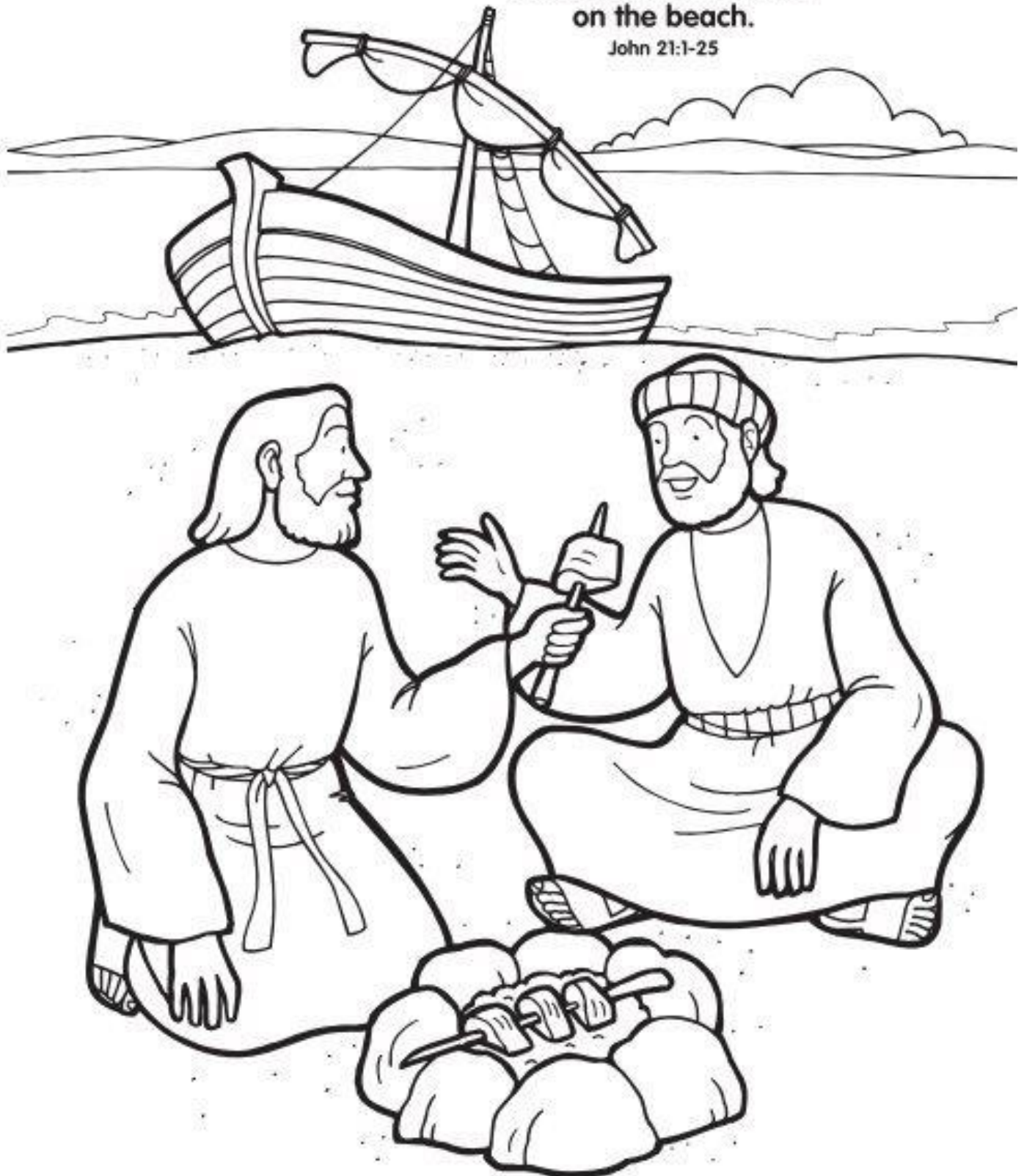
Visual aids for explaining the story in Rocks and Boulders





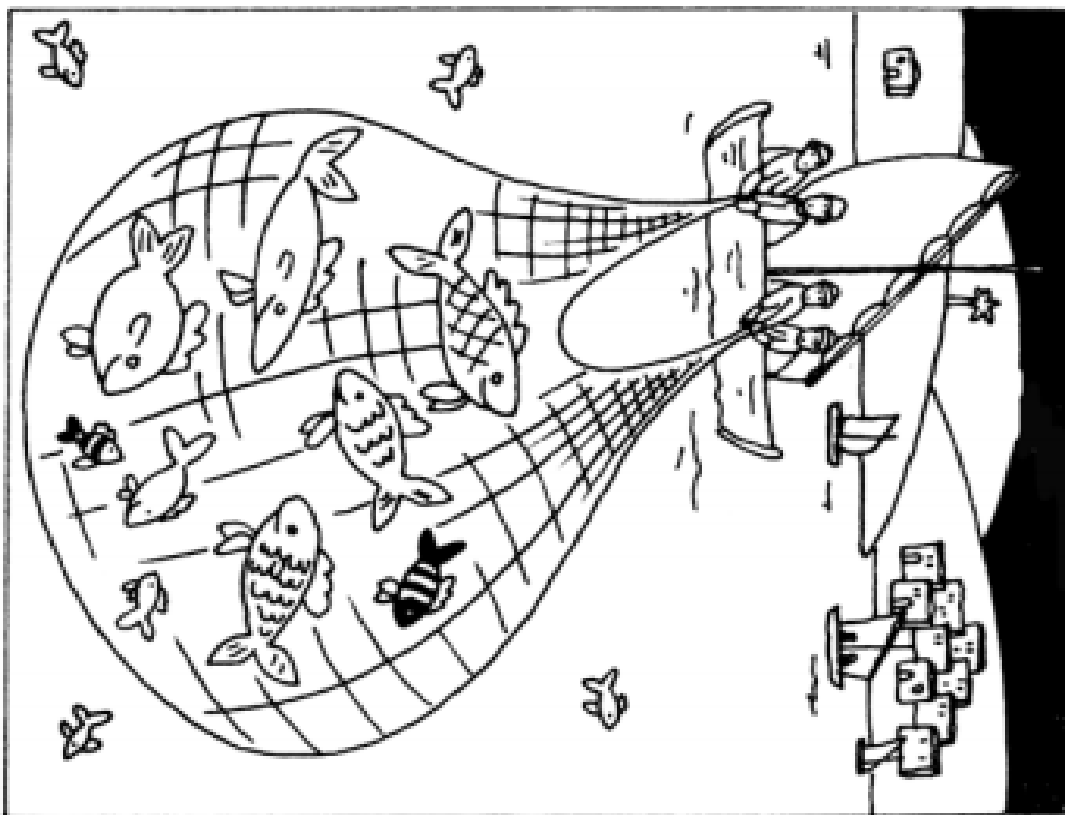
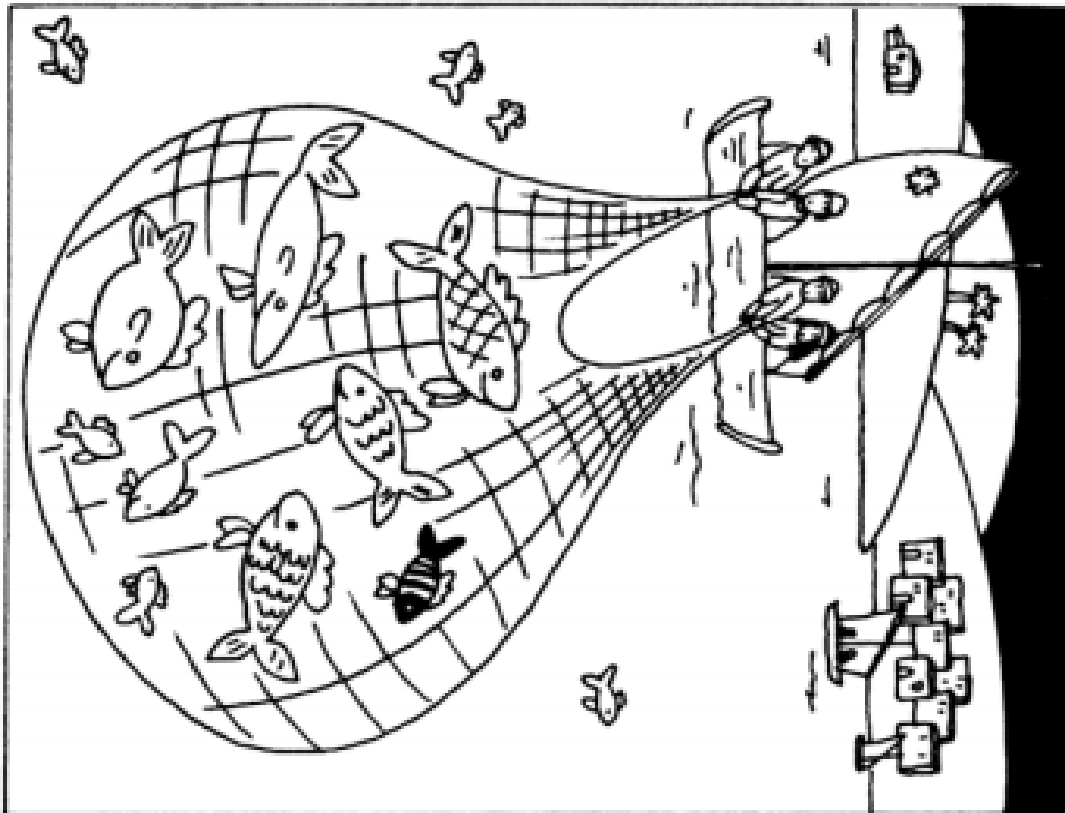
Jesus cooks breakfast
on the beach.

John 21:1-25



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There are 10 differences to find between the two pictures



The risen Jesus and the disciples

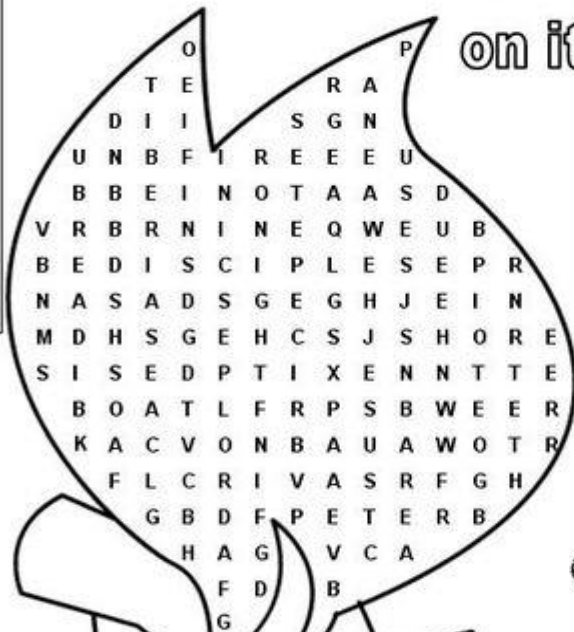
(John 21,1:15)



When they climbed
out on shore, they
saw a charcoal
fire with fish
on it and bread.



- Tiberias
- Jesus
- Sea
- Disciples
- Peter
- Boat
- Night
- Shore
- Net
- Fish
- Lord
- Fire
- Bread



Find the
hidden
words

