



Family Guide for the Week of April 18



THE BIG IDEA

Jesus gives encouragement.

THE BIBLE

The Miraculous Catch of Fish: John 21:1-17;
(Psalm 4:1-3)

What are we talking about today?

VIDEO | Rise Up, Episode 3

INSTRUCTIONS: *Play this week's video.*

STORY | Campfire with Jesus

Supplies Needed: Bonfire or fireplace

INSTRUCTIONS: *Tell a story about a time when you noticed someone who needed encouragement.*

- *How did you know?*
- *What did you do?*
- How do you think Jesus knows when we need encouragement?

SCRIPTURE | John 21:1-17

Supplies Needed: Bible, Campfire (real or pretend)

We are going to tell a campfire story today!

INSTRUCTIONS: *You can summarize the story in John 21:1-17 in the following way:*

Have you ever disobeyed your parents and you knew that they were not happy with you? How did that make you feel?

- When Jesus was captured and taken away, Peter was afraid that the same thing would happen to him! When people asked him, he said he didn't know who Jesus was at all!
- Peter knew that what he did made Jesus sad. He was probably worried that Jesus would be angry with him.

One day, the disciples were out fishing. They had been fishing for a long time, but they didn't catch anything.



- Then, someone appeared and told them to cast the net on the other side of the boat. The net filled with a bunch of fish!
- They knew only one person was able to do something this amazing – it had to be Jesus!

Peter was so excited to see Jesus. Peter jumped out of the boat and swam to shore.

- When Peter got to shore, Jesus invited Peter to sit and eat. The other disciples followed after they brought the boat to shore.
- Jesus simply asked Peter if he loved Jesus. Of course, Peter did!
- Jesus gave Peter a mission to take care of Jesus' followers everywhere.
- It did not matter what Peter had done. Jesus wanted Peter to know he still loved him and wanted him to tell everyone else about Jesus!

DISCUSSION:

- What did Peter do that made him discouraged?
- How many fish did the disciples catch before Jesus showed up?
- What did Jesus ask Peter when he made it back to shore and talked with him?
- What can you do to encourage someone who is feeling down?
- Can forgiving someone be a type of encouragement? How?
- When are sometimes you need encouragement? Where can you find it?

ACTIVITY | Motivational Poster

INSTRUCTIONS: Give each family member a piece of paper and tell them to create their own motivational poster.

ACTIVITY | Big Idea Fish

INSTRUCTIONS: Give each family member a blank piece of paper and coloring supplies. Have them create their own fish and cut it out. Have them write the Big Idea somewhere on the fish.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for encouraging us. You show us mercy and love even when we do not deserve it. Help us to show each other mercy. We want to be encouraging and loving like you. Amen.

BLESSING

Trace the sign of the cross on each family member and say, "Jesus loves you and encourages to do great things."

THE BIG IDEA: Jesus gives encouragement.

THE BIBLE: The Miraculous Catch of Fish: John 21:1-17

