FAMILY WORSHIP Breakfast by the Sea

Read the story in the gospel of John 21:1-14.

Overview of the story

The Lord appeared to the disciples several times after His crucifixion. In this story, the Lord came to the Sea of Galilee where seven of His disciples had been fishing all night from a little boat. They caught nothing until the Lord appeared in the morning.

Key points you may wish to cover:

John 21:3-4



The disciples went fishing at night but caught nothing. In the morning the Lord was standing by the lake, but the disciples did not recognize Him.

John 21:5-6

Jesus said, "Children, do you have any food?" They said, "No." He told them to cast their net on the right side of the boat, and they caught lots of fish.

John 21:7-9

John said, "It is the Lord!" When the disciples came to Him, they saw a fire with fish on it and bread. Then Jesus said, "Come and eat breakfast." And He gave them bread and fish.

Discussion Ideas

- 1. Seven of the Lord's disciples went fishing on the Sea of Galilee but caught nothing. What did the Lord tell them to do the next morning? (Cast the net on the right side of the boat.)
- 2. When did the disciples recognize the Lord? (John realized it was the Lord as they caught a multitude of fish in the net—too many to pull the net into the boat.)
- 3. Imagine how the disciples felt when they realized the Lord had come to meet them!
- 4. Who was the first to reach the Lord? (Peter) How did he get to shore? (He plunged into the sea while the others came in the boat.)
- 5. What food did the Lord give the disciples? (He had a fire of coals with fish on it and bread.)
- 6. What did the disciples contribute to the meal? (The Lord asked them to bring some of the fish they had caught.)
- 7. "This was the third time the Lord showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead" (John 21:14). Why do you think the Lord appeared to the disciples several times before His ascension into heaven?
- 8. Optional: Read Luke 24:50-53 which tells about the Lord's ascension: "Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried into heaven" (Luke 24:51).