

Bible Story 60: JESUS FORGIVES PETER AND JESUS ASCENDS TO HEAVEN

SCRIPTURE: Peter: John 21:1-19
Ascension: Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:3-11

MEMORY VERSE: 1 John 1:9, Acts 1:8 or Revelation 22:12

BIBLE STORY:

JESUS FORGIVES PETER

One day Simon Peter and six other disciples decided to go fishing. They fished all night, but they did not catch any fish.

Early the next morning, Jesus was on the shore. He called out, ***“Have you caught any fish?”***

They answered, ***“No.”***

Jesus told them to throw their net on the right side of the boat and they would catch some fish. They did. They caught so many fish that it was hard to bring in all the fish. They caught 153 fish!

John said, ***“It is the Lord!”*** Peter jumped into the water and went toward Jesus.

Jesus prepared breakfast, cooking some fish on a fire of burning coals. Jesus took the bread and fish, and He gave the food to His disciples to eat.

Then Jesus spoke to Simon Peter. Jesus asked, ***“Peter, do you love Me more than these?”***

Peter replied, ***“Yes, my Lord, you know that I love You.”***

Jesus said, ***“Peter, feed My lambs.”***

A second time Jesus asked, ***“Do you really love Me, Simon Peter?”***

Peter replied, ***“Lord, yes! Why you know that I love You.”***

Jesus said, ***“Peter, take care of My sheep.”***

A third time Jesus asked, ***“Simon Peter, do you love Me?”***

Peter was hurt, because Jesus asked the same question three times. Peter replied, ***“You know all things, Lord. Therefore, You know that I love You.”***

Jesus said, ***“Peter feed My sheep. Follow Me!”*** (Jesus forgave Peter for denying Him earlier.)

JESUS ASCENDS TO HEAVEN

After Jesus arose from the grave, He appeared to many different people for more than forty days. Jesus did many marvelous signs. Why? So we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. (Read John 20:30.)

One day as Jesus was telling His disciples to be His witnesses to all the people of the world, He began to rise. Jesus was moving upward! The disciples watched until a cloud hid Jesus from their sight.

Two angels stood by them and said, ***“One day Jesus will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven.”***

Jesus promises us that He will return! (Read Revelation 22:7, 12, 20.)

PART 1: PERSONAL QUESTIONS

1. What did you learn from the story?
2. How can you apply this story to your life?

PART 2: GENERIC QUESTIONS

1. What do you like about the story?
2. What is there in the story that you do not understand?
3. Who are the main people in the story?
4. What problems did the people face? What happened?
5. What does the story tell about God?

PART 3: SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

1. Who went fishing? Did they catch any fish during the night?
2. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do? What happened?
3. What breakfast did Jesus prepare for His disciples?
4. What question did Jesus ask Peter after eating breakfast?
--- What did Peter say?
--- Why did Jesus ask this same question three times?
5. Jesus appeared to many people for forty days after He arose. Then Jesus told His disciples to be His witnesses to all the world. What does it mean to "be His witnesses to all the world"?
6. How can we be a witness for Jesus?
7. Jesus began to rise. What happened? Where did Jesus go?
8. What promise did the angels give the disciples about Jesus returning?
9. What is eternal life? How can we have eternal life with Jesus? (Read John 3:16.)

***Do you believe Jesus is the son of God who died on the cross and arose again?
Do you want to be saved and have eternal life with Jesus? If yes, pray and tell God.
Pray a prayer, such as:***

*Dear God,
I believe that Jesus is the Son of God who died on the cross for my sins.
Forgive me of my sins. I accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior. Amen."*