

John 21: 1-6

Topic: a) When we do what God says.

a) Genesis 2: 16-17...What God said.

Genesis 3: 4-5....What Satan said.

a) Matthew 14: 24-29....By themselves, not going anywhere. When Jesus comes...Peter walks on water.

Topic: b) casting on the other side didn't make any sense.

b) Once there was a little monkey playing in a tree. Suddenly he heard his father calling to him from the ground. The monkey was high up in the tree but he could hear his dad. His dad was holding his arms out and telling the little monkey to jump and he would catch him. This didn't make any sense and it seemed dangerous. The little monkey didn't know why his dad was telling him to jump but he listened and did what his dad said. He sailed through the air and landed safely in his fathers arms. The little monkey looked up at the tree and saw a huge poisonous snake creeping through the branches. The little monkey was glad that he did what his father said.

- Did what the father said make any sense at the time?
- Was there a good reason?
- Who was the only one who knew the reason?
- Sometimes we don't understand why God tells us to do something. But He knows the reason and it's always a good one.
- We never regret obeying God.

John 21: 7

Topic: a) We can't live without Jesus.

a) There was an evil scientist. This evil scientist made a weapon that would suck all the air out of the sky. He turned his weapon on and all the people started gasping for air to breathe. The people couldn't breathe when suddenly they saw a building with a sign that said, "Free air." Everyone ran into the building, was able to breathe and lived.

- Why did everyone run into the building?
- Jesus is the truth, the life and the way. We need Him more than we need air.

John 21: 8-14

Topic: a) What is fellowship?

a) Mark and James were best friends. They played together every day. One weekend Mark was going to spend the night at James' house. He went over around supper time and ate with James and his family. After supper they went outside and played till dark. Then they came in and watched a movie. They played a couple of video games together. Soon James' mother told them to go upstairs and go to bed. She knew they weren't going to go to sleep. They sat on the bed, talked and listened to each other. They told each other secrets. James shared his comic book collection with Mark. Finally they fell asleep. During the night Mark woke up, was scared and a little home sick. James stayed up with him, talked to him and made him feel better. Soon they were asleep. Morning came; the boys ran downstairs and had breakfast together. They were close, they were friends.

- The best times on earth are those times spent with Jesus.

John 21: 15-19

Topic: a) The Lord will meet you where you are and bring you up.

a) Rachel and her dad were going camping. They were going to camp on top of a high mountain. The sides of this mountain were very steep and rocky. The only way you could get to the top was to climb up the side of the mountain. Rachel's dad was an expert rock climber. He climbed to the top and threw down a rope for Rachel. Rachel grabbed the rope and started climbing but it was too steep. She wanted to get to the top but she didn't have enough strength to pull herself up. Her dad saw this. He climbed back down, picked Rachel up in his arms and carried her to the top.

- Jesus wants you to be at the top of everything.
- If you want to be with Him, no matter where you are...He will come to you and bring you there.

John 21: 20-23

Topic: a) What about him?

a) There was a storm coming. This storm had very strong winds. It was going to rain really, really hard. There was a town in the path of the storm. The people in the town knew the storm was coming and that if they didn't do something their town would be flooded. The people all got together and started collecting plastic bags. They took the bags and filled them with sand then they piled the bags filled with sand all around the town. The storm came. It rained hard. The river flooded. The water was heading for the town but the people and their town were safe inside their wall of sand bags.

- What really mattered? The storm...? Or what the people did?

- What really matters is not what other people do but what you do.
- Will you follow Jesus?

a) There was a family of mice that lived in the walls of a house. Every night they could hear noises outside. It was the rats. They were crawling around at night, knocking over garbage cans and eating the garbage. One little mouse heard the rats and thought it might be fun to be outside at night knocking over garbage cans. An old mouse warned and told the little mouse not to join in with the rats. One night the little mouse heard the rats. The mouse ran outside to see. One of the rats came over and invited him to join in knocking over garbage cans. He told the little mouse how much fun it was and how tasty the garbage was. The little mouse followed the rat. Later he came home with a really bad stomach ache and was sick because he had been eating garbage. The old mouse scolded the little mouse. The little mouse said, "But the rats were doing it!" The old mouse replied, "I don't care what the rats do. I care about what you do!"

- Even though the rats were doing bad...Why did the old mouse only scold the little mouse?
- Jesus loves you. Even if everyone around you is doing bad things...He cares about what you are going to do.

John 21: 24

Topic: a) This is the only truth.

a) There was a boy who wanted a chocolate donut with red sprinkles on it. He went to the market to find one. At the market there were people selling all kinds of things. He went up to one and said, "I want a chocolate donut with red sprinkles on it." "Here" said the man, "Buy a bagel." The boy went to another looking for a chocolate donut with red sprinkles on it. "Here" said the man, "Buy some toast." The boy went to another looking for a chocolate donut with red sprinkles on it. "Here" said the man, "Buy a donut with green sprinkles on it." The boy went to another looking for a chocolate donut with red sprinkles on it. "Here" said the man, "Buy a donut with chocolate inside but no sprinkles." The boy went to another looking for a chocolate donut with red sprinkles on it. "Here" said the man, "Here is a chocolate donut with red sprinkles on it."

- Which one should he buy? Why?
- There are a lot of people who say they have the truth...But there is only one.

John 21: 25

Topic: a) What has he done?

a) Dad gave Robert a list of jobs to do. He had to take out the garbage, feed the dog, clean his room, fill the dishwasher and sweep the kitchen. Dad went to work. When he got home the garbage was taken out, the dog had been fed, Roberts room was clean, the dishes were done and the kitchen floor swept.

- What did Robert do? (Everything)
- What has Jesus done?

a) There were two goldfish in a bowl. The boy who owned them took good care of them. He fed them everyday. He cleaned their water every day. He bought little fish toys for them to play with. Even when the fish were bad like the time they jumped out their bowl and tried to run away (They didn't get very far) or the time they broke all the fish toys the boy had bought for them. He still took care of them every day. One day one of the fish said, "I'm sick of this boy! What has he ever done for us?!"

- What has he done? (Loved them)
- How has Jesus loved us?

a) The goldfish were in their bowl. One night some fish robbers snuck into the house. They were hungry and loved to eat goldfish sandwiches. The fish robbers sneaked in with tiny fishing poles. They lowered their hooks into the bowl. The fish were just about to be caught when the boy came in. Even though the fish robbers hit him with their tiny fishing poles, the boy chased them away. The fish were able to go back to sleep because they knew they were safe.

- What did the boy do for the fish? (Saved them)
- How has Jesus saved us?
- What has He saved us from?

a) Thursday was "National flush your fish down the toilet day." People all over the town were celebrating and going house to house looking for fish to flush. A large group of people came to the boys house. They knocked on the door and the boy answered. The people said, "Today is National flush your fish down the toilet day! Let's flush your fish!" The boy ran and grabbed the fish bowl. He held it very tightly. "These fish are mine and I am keeping them!" said the boy. He closed the door and the people went away looking for other fish to flush.

- What did the boy do for the fish? (Kept them)
- Will Jesus keep you forever or will He let you go?

a) One day the boy picked up his fish bowl. He told the fish that he had a special surprise for them. He got into the car and strapped the fish bowl into the seat next to him. He drove to a lake. He took the fish bowl to the edge of the lake and spoke to the fish. "You are going to like

this, “he said. He dumped the fish into the lake. The fish couldn’t believe their eyes. The lake was beautiful. The water was clean and just the right temperature. There were so many things to eat they didn’t know where to start. There were other fish to play with. There were so many cool hiding places. The best thing was that the lake was huge. The fish could swim for miles. They were no longer trapped in their little bowl. They were so happy that even though they were underwater, if you listened closely you could hear them laughing.

- Is Jesus going to bring us somewhere?
- What will it be like?