



WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

LESSON 36

THE STORY OF PETER: FROM FISHERMAN TO SAINT

Summary of Today's Story

The Bible tells several stories of Peter after Jesus' resurrection. Today we summarize his life as compiled from various sources in the Bible. You may tell all of these stories, or you may tell the single story of the evangelist Peter became after Jesus' resurrection. In this story in Acts 3, Peter, in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, heals a lame man who had asked them for alms. Here we see a Peter who has been empowered by Christ to spread the Good News. Peter is no longer bumbling but confident, no longer a student but a teacher of the new faith.

Where You'll Find Today's Story

In the Bible

We recommend the *New Revised Standard Version* Bible.

If you tell just one story about Peter, we recommend:

Acts 3: 1-10 (Peter heals a lame man)

You can find other stories about Peter in:

Luke 5:12-11 (Jesus calls Peter to follow him)

Luke 9:28-36 (Peter at the Transfiguration of Jesus)

Matthew 14: 22-33 (Peter tries to walk on the water)

Matthew 16:13-20 (Peter "the Rock")

Matthew 26:69-75 or Luke 22:56-62
(Peter denies knowing Jesus)

In Children's Bibles

If you plan to use a children's Bible for storytelling, write the page numbers of today's story in the space below.

In Our Sunday Lectionary

Today's story from Acts 3: 1-10 is told on the following Sundays:

Years A, B, C: Wednesday of Easter Week

In addition, we celebrate the Confession of St. Peter the Apostle on January 18 and a feast for St. Peter and St. Paul on June 29.



Weaving Our Story with the Biblical Story

Peter had an exciting life and a distinctive personality, especially

when we remember that he was just a common fisherman when Jesus called him. Indeed, it may have been the rough uncouth stumbling part of his fisherman self that so endeared him to Jesus, and so endears him to us. It certainly was his purity of heart and his honesty and vulnerability that made him such an open vessel for Jesus' message and grace.

Peter and his brother Andrew were the first disciples called by Jesus. In the Bible, Peter is characterized as impetuous, intense, stubborn, impulsive and stumbling, with his foot often in his mouth. But it is also Peter who first confesses Jesus as the Messiah: "Rabbi, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." And "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

We see Peter many times in the Gospels. Peter is the only disciple who tries to walk on the sea when he sees Jesus walking on the water toward him, and who begins to sink when he loses courage. Though we sometimes make fun of Peter for sinking in the water, we forget that the other disciples did not even try. They cowered in the boat while Peter reached out to Jesus, his savior.

When Jesus takes Peter, James and John to the mountain and the disciples experience the transfiguration of Jesus, it is Peter who impulsively proposes building three tents for Jesus, Moses and Elijah. We laugh at his flustered and rash talk, but we can also identify with Peter in his awkwardness. In fact, Peter comes across in the Gospels as the most human and therefore the one with whom we feel most at home. Sometimes Peter seems to have felt way out of his league when following Jesus. Do we?

Then we see Peter just before Jesus' crucifixion. At the Last Supper, he tells Jesus that he will always follow Jesus and will even die for him (John 13:37). But then, much to his later shame, Peter denies three times that he even knows his Lord. But he is ashamed and cries bitterly at his own betrayal of his Lord, and when he hears news that Jesus has been raised from the dead, he runs breathlessly to the open tomb, wanting to be the first to see his beloved Jesus.

Jesus reminds him of his denial. The resurrected Lord meets his disciples as they are fishing. Peter, always the first to run and greet his Master, jumps into the sea and swims to meet Jesus. After their breakfast together, Jesus has a heart-to-heart talk with Peter. "Peter, do you love me?" he asks Peter three times, followed by "Feed my sheep." This scene is one of the most poignant scenes in the Bible. Peter "felt hurt" and humbled that Jesus has to ask him three times, no doubt a reminder and a forgiveness of the three denials. And then Jesus finally tells Peter that now Peter may follow Jesus all the way to the end. Now Peter is ready.

In Acts, Peter begins his preaching and healing ministry in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. He also helps the young church to grow beyond the Jewish community and to spread its mission to the Gentiles. At first, he opposes the baptism of Gentiles, but he has the humility to admit a change of heart and baptize the Roman centurion Cornelius and his household.

According to legend, Peter later goes to Rome to preach the gospel, but flees Rome during the persecution under Nero. But as he is fleeing, he meets Christ and asks him, "Lord, where are you going?" The Lord answers, "I am coming to be crucified again." Peter thereupon retraces his steps, returning to Rome, where he is soon crucified just as his Lord was.

There are two books in the New Testament attributed to Peter: 1 Peter and 2 Peter. Do these books of beautiful witness come from the same person who was the uncouth fisherman who always put his foot in his mouth? At the least, they were written by his followers, who took their inspiration from him. He is described in Acts as uneducated and ordinary, or “unlearned and ignorant” by early church leaders. But his faith is now unwavering, and he has been steadied and shaped by grace and by a disciple’s passion. Now he is directed not by his own impulsive power of conflicting impulses but by a new power: the power of Jesus Christ.



The Episcopal Thread

In the *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, the Episcopal book on the celebrations of the church year, we celebrate on January

18 “The Confession of Saint Peter the Apostle.” The book makes its tribute to Peter, ending with:

- As we watch Peter struggle with himself, often stumble, love his Lord and deny him, speak rashly and act impetuously, his life reminds us that our Lord did not come to save the godly and strong but to save the weak and sinful. Simon, an ordinary human being, was transformed by the Holy Spirit in the ‘Rock,’ and became the leader of the Church (*Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, New York: Church Publishing/Church Pension Fund, 2006, p. 132).



Gathering

As the children enter the room, engage them in a simple activity that relates to today’s lesson.

Several activities are included at the end of this lesson, beginning on pages 9-27.

One activity idea for the gathering time is to have children make Stick Puppets or Peter’s Face Puppets on pages 9 and 17. These puppets may be used during storytelling time.

Older children may enjoy a bit of fellowship, visiting with each other until the start of the lesson. Encourage friendly conversation (no putdowns) that will help to build up the community of youth in the church.

Also see Gathering Activity Ideas in the Appendix (also downloadable) for additional ideas.

After all the children have arrived and had a few minutes of activity or fellowship time, gather them together and say a simple opening prayer. Pray a prayer from your own heart, use a prayer from the Prayer Book, or pray something like the following:

- Almighty God, we thank you for bringing us together here in your church so that we can hear your stories and learn about your love for us. Bless us now as we turn toward you, and bless our friends who are absent today. We pray this in Jesus’ name. *Amen.*



Telling the Story

Use the storytelling pages on pages 7-8 at the end of this lesson to tell today's story about Peter.

Tell the story as you would tell any story about a real person. Talk as if you know Peter. With all of the information that we have in the Gospels about him, sometimes we indeed feel as if we do know him! He is lovable but frustrating to us. We cheer for him, we scold him, we cry for him. Put all of these in your storytelling manner.

If the children made Stick Puppets or Peter's Face Puppets, invite them to use the puppets as you tell the story. For the Face Puppets, they turn the puppet around to show Peter's happy face or sad face, depending on the story. They can also cheer or cry for Peter as you tell the story.

Let the children hear the story without analyzing it for them or discussing it. For now, simply let the story sink into their minds and hearts. Later, while having snacks, you can bring up the story again and invite the children to talk about it and explore its message.



Prayer

Set up a small worship center in your room.

Materials:

- small table with a cloth to cover it
- 2 candles or a single large Christ candle
- matches
- Bible
- cross
- optional:* flowers (real, artificial or handmade by the children)

Have the children set up a simple altar with the materials listed above. Invite them to place on the altar any drawings or crafts that they created during Gathering time. Then light the candles.

Read a verse from today's scripture from a Bible so that the children connect the story they heard with the Bible, which is the word of God. If working mainly with older children, you might expand the reading to several verses.

Suggestions for the reading:

For younger children: Acts 3:6

For older children: Acts 3:6-8

Help familiarize the children with our liturgy by doing the reading as it is done in church. Read as follows:

Reader: A reading from the book of John: (*Read the selected passage.*)

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Invite the children to sit in a circle and join in prayer. Say a brief prayer yourself then invite prayers from each child in the circle:

- Invite children to share any prayers of thanks to God for the ways in which God has been present in their lives during the past week. Where have we seen God in our lives? Where are the instances of goodness and beauty in our days that show God's work?
- Welcome any prayers of concern or petition for ourselves or others who may need God's help or comfort. If you know of any children or families in periods of transition (a new baby, a move to a new house, a change in jobs, a new school), pray for God's love and guidance to carry them through these new times.
- Ask if anyone has had a birthday or celebrated a special day during the past week and give thanks for these special times.
- End by praying together the Lord's Prayer.

Carefully extinguish the candles.



Sharing

Pass out snacks and say a simple grace, such as:

- Give us grateful hearts, O Lord, for all your gifts, and make us mindful of the needs of others, in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

This is an excellent time, while sharing a snack, to begin talking about the story that the children have just heard. Encourage children to share their thoughts about Peter and his ministry. Remind them of Peter's time with Jesus before his crucifixion:

- at the site of the transfiguration
- Peter's various outbursts
- his confession of Jesus as the Messiah
- his denial that he even knew Jesus just before the crucifixion.

Share with them also how much Peter must have changed—been transformed—by his life with Jesus.

- How did Peter show his faith in Jesus after Jesus died and was raised again?
- How did he live his life?
- What does Peter teach you about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus?



Activities: Arts, Crafts, Games, Drama, etc.

After Sharing, begin an activity to supplement and enhance today's story. While the children are doing an activity, talk about the story so that they make the connection.

Suggested story-related activities are provided at the end of this lesson on pages 9-27.

Additional activity ideas can be found on pages 3-6 in the Appendix (also downloadable) where we've provided suggestions and directions for a variety of general activities that can be adapted to any lesson. Also included are outreach and service projects that can be done at any time.

ACTIVITIES FOR THIS WEEK'S SESSION

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Memorization

There is no passage from the Bible to learn in today's lesson. However, other important words of our faith that may be learned by the children are: the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, the various responses of the people in the Prayer Book, the Lord's Prayer.

Suggestions for ways to help the children with their memorization can be found on page 15 in the Appendix (also downloadable).



Weaving the Family of God

As your time together draws to a close, take a few minutes to help the children summarize the story and

say what they learned today by asking questions such as:

- Who did we talk about today?
- Can you say one story about Peter?
- In what ways would you like to be like Peter?

Encourage the children to remember key words and ideas from the story, such as: *love, disciple, following Jesus*.



Closing Prayer

Before the children leave, say a closing prayer to send them into the church worship service or back to their homes with God's love and blessing. Pray a prayer from your heart, or find one from the Prayer Book or pray the following:

- Almighty God, we thank you for giving such people as Peter as an example for us of how to follow Jesus. Send us now back to our families, to love you just as you love us, and to love our families, friends and neighbors. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

End with a dismissal used in church, such as:

- The peace of the Lord be always with you.

The children respond:

- And also with you!



WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

PETER'S STORY

If this story is too long for younger children, you may tell it in two parts.

Hello! My name is Peter. Actually, my name is Simon but Jesus named me Peter. I'll tell you about that later. My brother Andrew and I are fishermen. We ply the waters of the Sea of Galilee and some of the lakes nearby, like the lake of Gennesaret. At least, we were fishermen when we first met Jesus. In fact, we were busy at our jobs when Jesus came walking along the shore...

Andrew and I were washing our fishing nets and just about to get into the boat and cast off, when a big noisy crowd came near, with a man in front. He got into *my* boat.

"Hey! What do you think you're doing with my boat?" I shouted.

The man answered, "I want you to help me cast this boat a little way from the shore. I'll teach these people from the boat, out in the water. That way, they can all hear me." Of course, I listened to him as he spoke. Then he turned to me and said, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."

I was tired. We'd been out all night and hadn't caught a thing—not even a crab. But I said, "If you say so, I'll let the nets down." Next thing I knew, we were hauling fish out like crazy! The nets were starting to break, from all of the fish caught inside them. I had to call for another boat to help me. Soon, in both boats, we were up to our waist in squiggly, floppy, delicious fish for the market! Luckily, we made it to shore before the boats sank!

I knew who did this. I looked at Jesus. Then—I couldn't help it—I fell down on my knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord—I am a bad man!" But Jesus gently stood me up and said, "Don't be afraid. Follow me, and from now on, you will be catching people."

That's how I first met Jesus. Andrew and I were one of his first disciples. Soon, a few others joined our group, and we all became close friends—the brothers James and John, Nathaniel, the tax collector Matthew, Judas and a few others. What a group! How did we get to be the lucky twelve who Jesus called his disciples, and then his friends?

But sometimes I didn't feel so lucky. I am just a simple fisherman. I don't have all the right words at the right time. Some people tell me I always put my foot in my mouth. That means I say stupid things sometimes, because I talk before I think. But I'm always honest. Well, usually. Once—actually, twice, no, three times!—I told people that I didn't know Jesus. I did that just when Jesus needed me the most. I feel terrible for doing that, because the next day, Jesus was killed—and I had abandoned him! But when Jesus was raised by God from the dead and I saw him, he forgave me. Imagine that! I couldn't forgive myself, but Jesus forgave me for deserting him!

At the beginning and for the next three years, I followed Jesus everywhere. Once, Jesus invited me with James and John up a mountain. I knew this was going to be a time for us to pray. That's what



WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

PETER'S STORY (CONT.)

mountains are for—to meet God. Suddenly, I saw Jesus changed. He was glowing in white like the sun. Then a voice came from heaven saying: “This is my beloved Son. LISTEN TO HIM!” That kept me quiet, except for the beating of my heart and the quaking of my knees.

Another time, a group of us went out in a boat to cross the sea. Jesus had said he would meet us later. The weather was calm, but then it got stormy like it often does on the sea. But this was a bad one—we thought we would surely drown! Then I looked out and saw a ghost—no, it was Jesus, walking toward us on the water! At least, he said he was Jesus: “Don’t be afraid, it is I, Jesus!” He said that a lot—“Don’t be afraid!”

Should I believe him? Without even thinking, I called out, “Lord, if it is you, tell me to come to you on the water.” If he can do it, so can I! When he said “come,” I climbed out of the boat and lo! I was walking on the water! But then I got scared, and that made me sink. But Jesus reached out and caught me by the hand and held me up until we got back to the boat. After the others teased and scolded me for doing such a stupid thing, they turned to Jesus and knelt at his feet and said, “Truly you are the son of God.”

How did I deserve to be one of his followers, the follower of the Son of God, the Messiah! I am stubborn, not too smart, bumbling, and like I said, I talk before I think. Sometimes that makes the truth come out, like when Jesus asked the disciples who we thought he was. I blurted out, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Maybe that’s why Jesus changed

my name to Peter, because I said that. He said, “Your name isn’t Simon anymore. It’s Peter. ‘Peter’ means *Rock*. You are like a rock to me, and on you, my rock, I will build my church.”

But I am not special. I am a lot like you. I sometimes say the wrong thing, do the wrong thing. When things got tough that night before he died, to save myself I told people I didn’t even know Jesus. I pretended like he was just some guy who came from the same place as me. But when he came back from the dead, Jesus forgave me, and he told me that I need to take care of his people.

So I tried to do that—to help people. One day, an amazing thing happened. My friend John and I were on our way to the Temple when we saw a lame man at the gate. He hadn’t taken a single step in his whole life. He was asking for money, food, gold, silver, anything. I said to him, “I have no gold or silver, but here’s what I have: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk.” And he did! He went leaping and dancing around—and so did I, because by the power given to me by Jesus, I was able to heal someone!

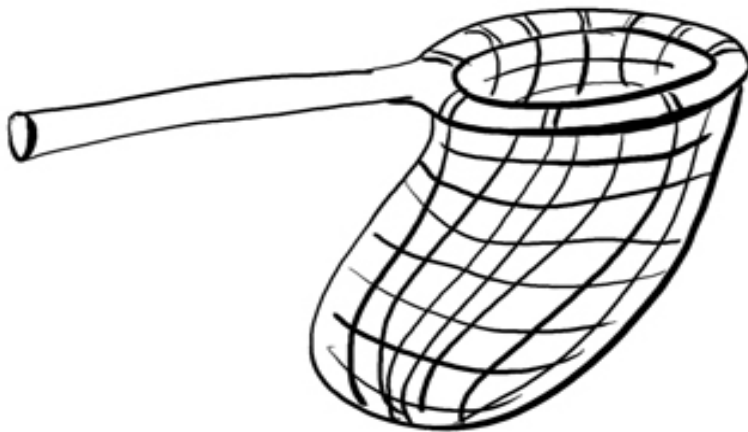
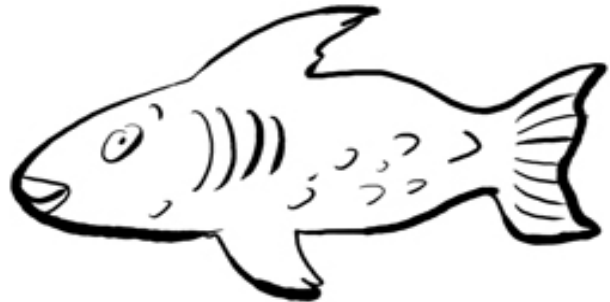
So that’s my story—at least part of my story. The main part is, I am a follower of Jesus, and I am just like you, an ordinary person with good points and bad points, strengths and weaknesses. Jesus depends on people like us—ordinary people, even when we stumble and make mistakes—to be his followers. Come and join me! And don’t be afraid! I’ll be in my boat waiting for you!



WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

GATHERING ACTIVITY: STICK PUPPETS FOR STORYTELLING

These pictures show parts of Peter's life. Cut out these pictures and glue them to the end of a craft stick. Then, when you hear the story about Peter, you can wave the puppets whenever you hear the words used.





WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

GATHERING ACTIVITY: WHAT'S ON THE MOUNTAIN?

Jesus and his friends went up to a mountain to pray. Peter is one of them. While he is walking up the mountain, what do you think he sees? Circle the things that belong on the mountain, and cross out the ones that don't.





WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

GATHERING ACTIVITY: PETER'S BOAT

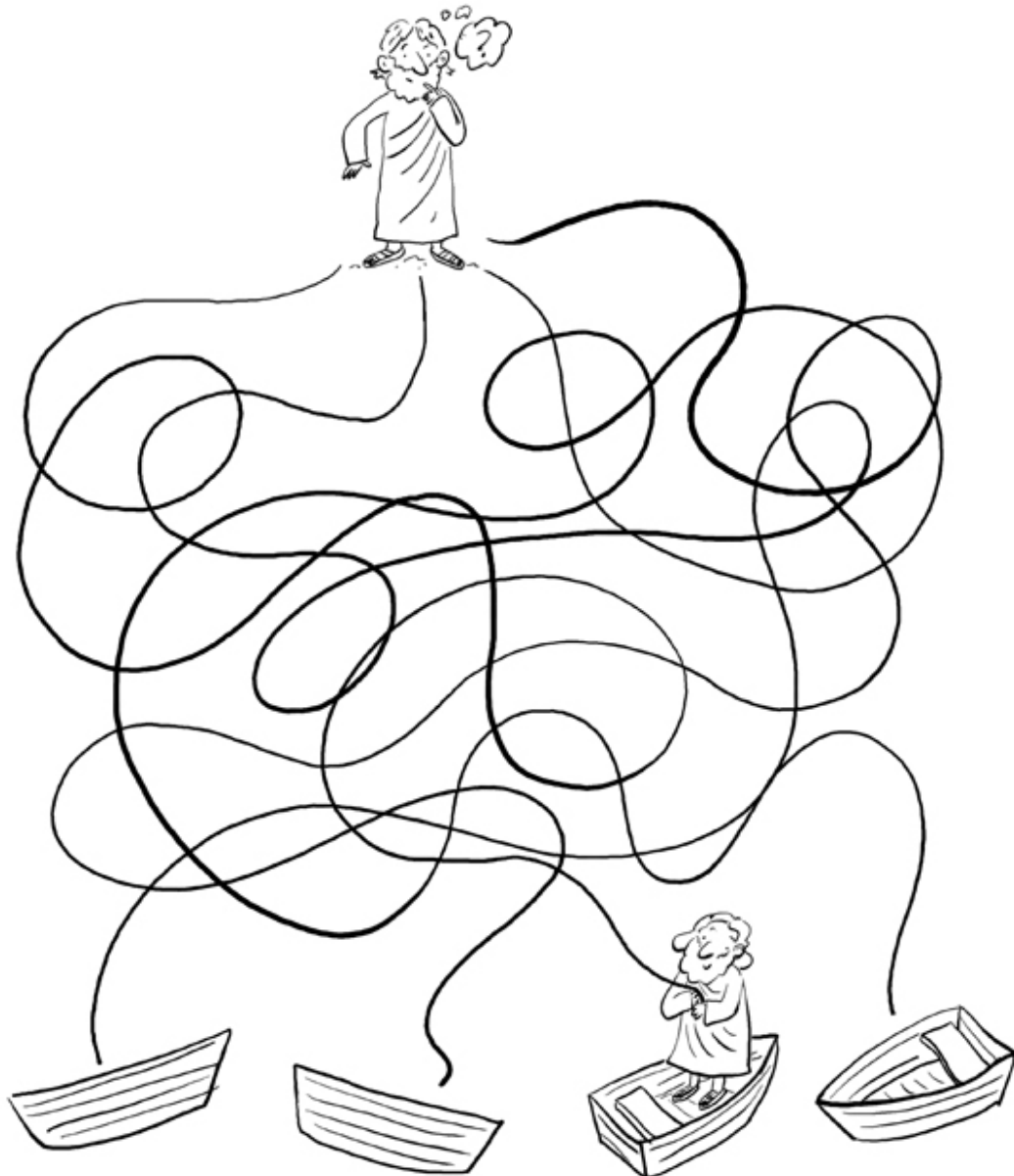
One of Jesus' friends was Peter, who was a fisherman. He caught a lot of fish today. Draw the fish he caught, then add them up. How many did you draw?



WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

GATHERING ACTIVITY: A BOAT FOR PETER

Peter is looking for his boat. Jesus took it. Can you lead him to the right boat?

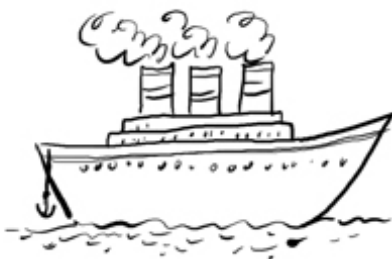
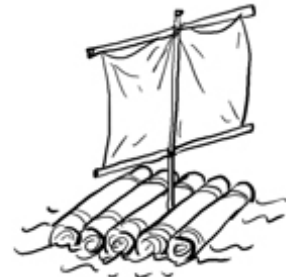




WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

GATHERING ACTIVITY: PETER'S BOAT

What kind of boat do you think Peter would have? He is a fisherman. Color all of these boats, then circle the one you think is his.





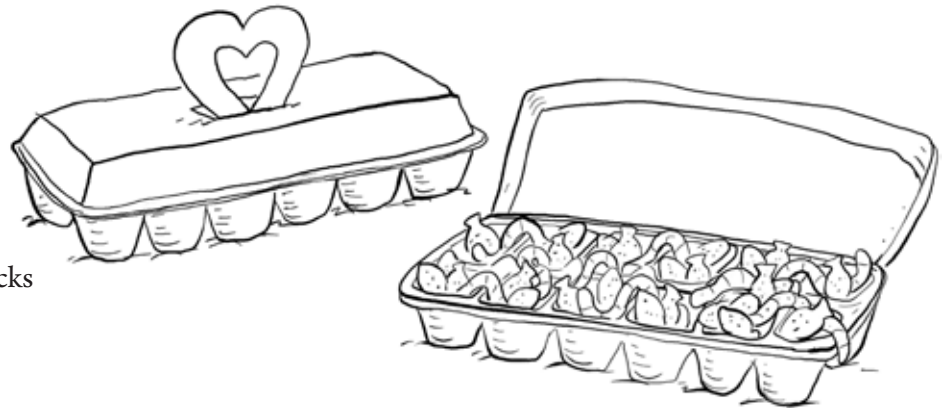
WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

FISHING GEAR FOR JESUS' DISCIPLES for Preschool

Children make fishing tackle boxes out of egg cartons.

Materials:

- egg carton with lid, 1 per child
- fishing tackle box "handle" (p. 15)
- construction paper, any color
- fish-shaped snack crackers
- gummy worms
- other "fishing-related" small toys or snacks
- stapler
- crayons
- glue
- scissors



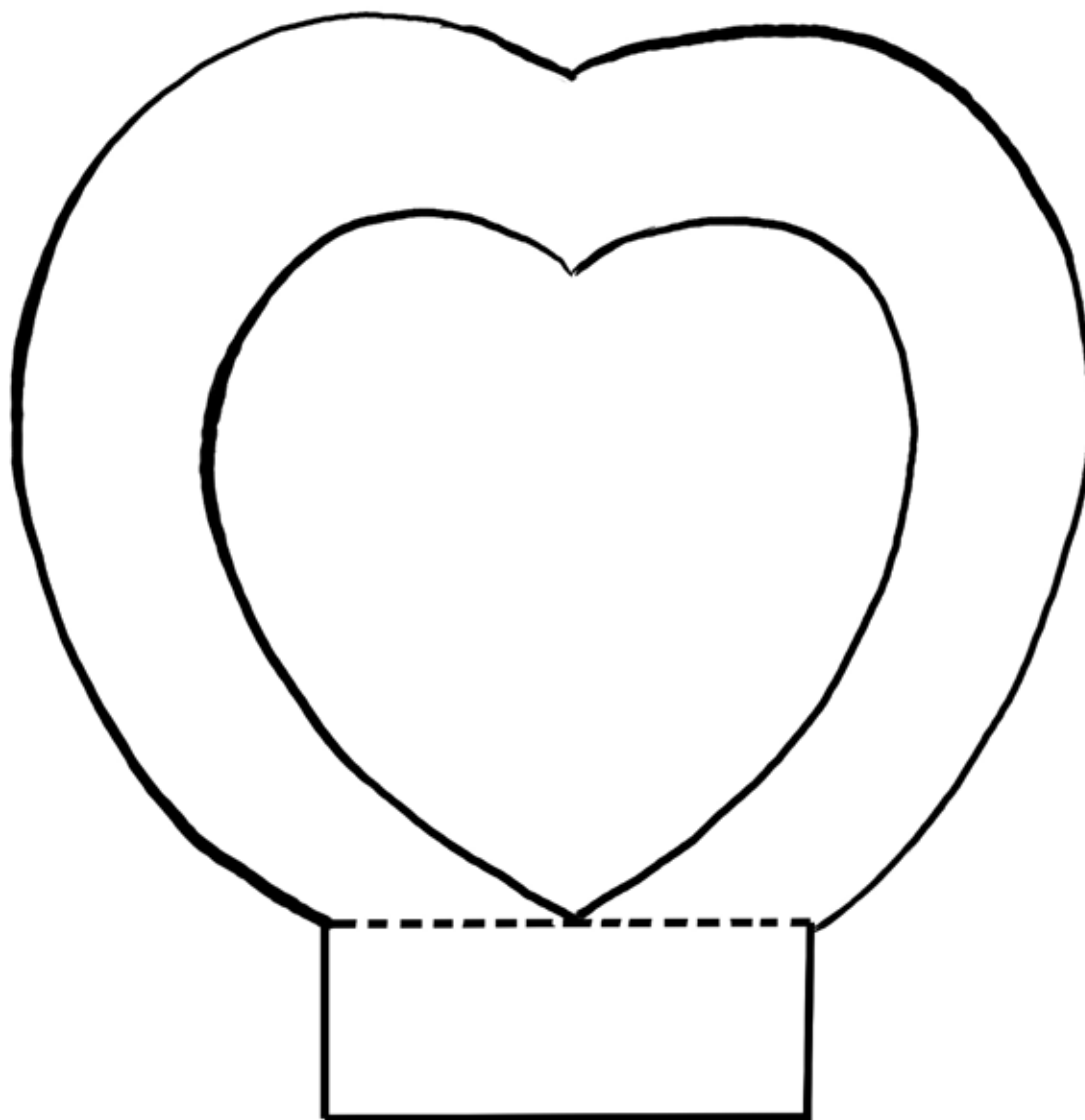
Preparation:

1. Cut fishing tackle box "handles" out of poster board, using the template on the next page.
2. Cut some construction paper the same size as the top lid of the egg carton, one per child.

Directions:

Invite each child to make a fishing tackle box as follows:

1. Take a piece of cut construction paper and decorate one side of it. You may draw fish all over it for a fitting decoration.
2. Glue the construction paper to the top of your egg carton.
3. Fold the handle along the dotted line and glue the rectangular base to the top of the carton, making a handle.
4. Fill the inside of the box with gummy worms, fish-shaped snack crackers and other stuff.





WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

PETER ON THE WATER for Preschool

In this game, children take turns walking on “water” to Jesus, like Peter did.

Materials:

a bed sheet

Directions:

1. Have children form two lines. Each line kneels on the floor facing each other, about five feet apart.
2. Have the lines of children hold the sheet between them. Show them how to shake the sheet to make waves.
3. Say: *Peter is going to try to walk on the water to the other side while the wind and the waves roll all around him. Peter needs to keep an eye on Jesus so he doesn't get scared and sink. I'll be Jesus standing on the other side.*
4. Choose one child to be *Peter*, standing at one end of the sheet while you stand at the other end. *Peter* walks on the *water* towards you while the children continue shaking the sheet.
5. When *Peter* reaches you, have that child kneel down at the end of one of the lines. Have the child at the beginning of that line take his or her turn at being *Peter*.
6. Continue until everyone has had a turn being *Peter*.



WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

“PETER’S” FACE PUPPETS for Preschool, Primary

Children draw facial expressions on paper plates to use during storytelling time.

Materials:

- white paper plates, 2 per child (small or large)
- markers or crayons
- tape or stapler

Directions:

Invite each child to make a double-sided face puppet as follows:

1. On the underside of one plate, color a happy Peter. Color a sad Peter on the underside of the other plate.
2. Tape or staple the two plates together.
3. When you hear the story of Peter, turn your face to reflect the different sides of Peter.

Variation:

Make a variety of expressions for Peter, using the method below.

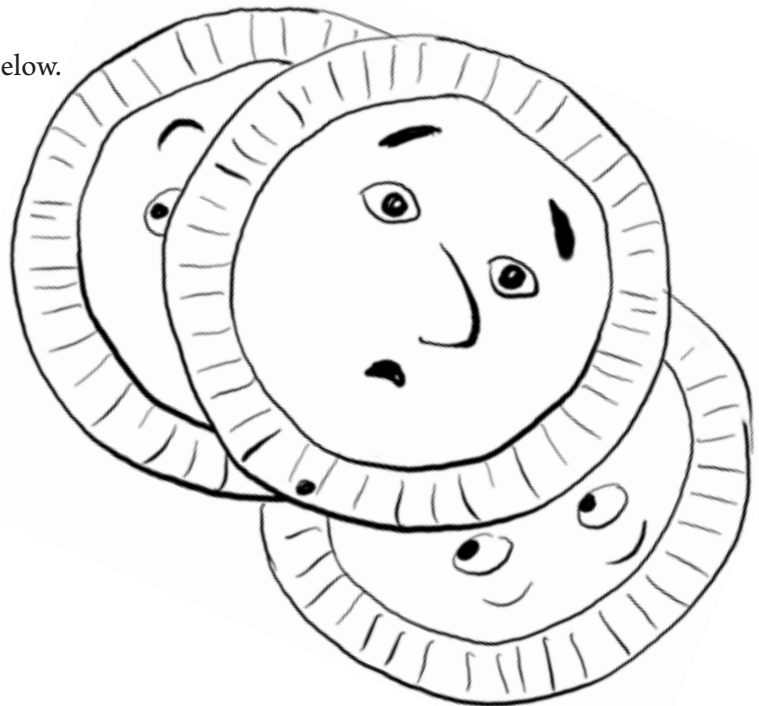
Additional Materials:

- hole punch
- paper fasteners

Directions:

Use several paper plates and draw a variety of expressions—*happy, sad, angry, surprised, frightened, puzzled*, etc. Punch a hole at the bottom of each plate and poke a paper fastener through all of the plates.

When you hear the story of Peter, roll out the appropriate expression, letting the other faces hang down.





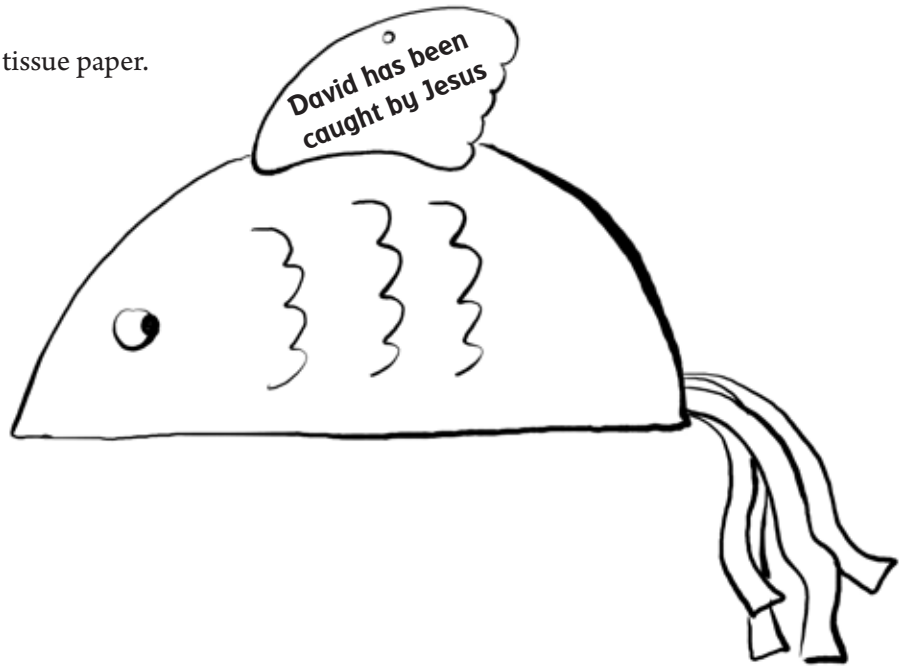
WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

“CAUGHT BY JESUS” HANGING FISH for Preschool, Primary

Children make a personalized fish from tissue paper.

Materials:

- colored tissue paper
- plate
- clear adhesive sheets (for example, clear Con-Tact® paper)
- construction paper
- scissors
- pencil
- hole punch
- yarn
- markers
- stapler
- fin pattern (p. 19)



Preparation:

1. Make a copy of the fin pattern for each child.
2. Use a plate to trace circles on the adhesive paper. Cut out the circle. Make one circle for each child. Draw a line through the middle to mark two half circles.
3. Cut the tissue paper into circles. Cut half circles for scales and full circles for eyes.

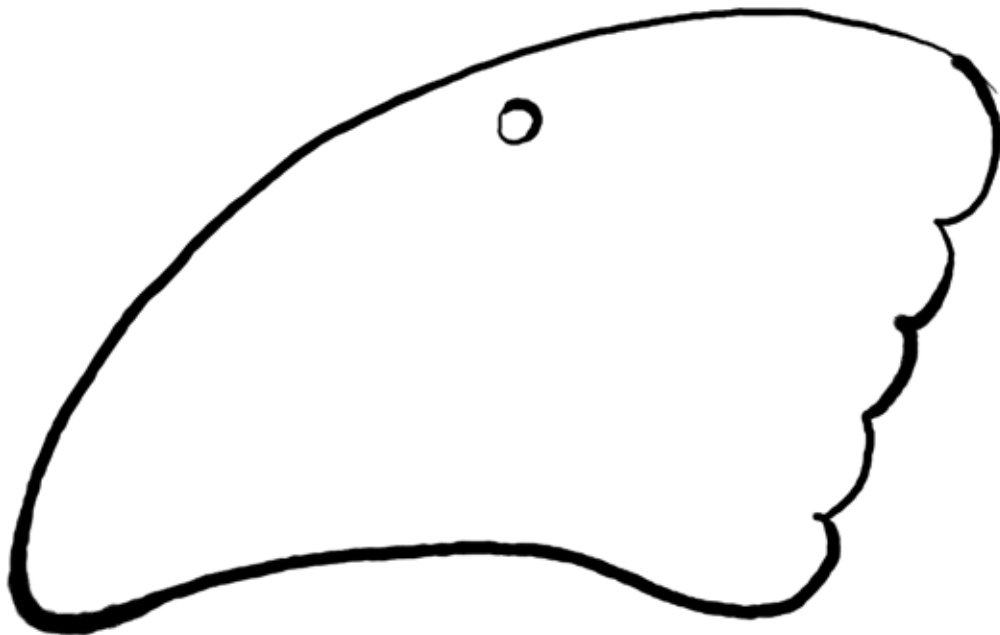
Directions:

Invite each child to make a hanging fish as follows:

1. Cut out the fin. You may color it before cutting it out. On it, write: *[Your name] has been caught by Jesus.*
2. Take the backing off the adhesive circle. On the top half of the circle (which will be the fish shape), put on the tissue eye. Then add a lot of half circle tissues for scales, covering the fish.
3. Cut several colorful strips of tissue and stick them to the back of the fish for a tail.
4. Add the fin with the words, to the top of the fish.
5. Fold the bottom half of the circle over the top half.

6. Staple the fin to hold it in place.

7. Punch a hole at the top of the fin and thread a length of yarn through it, for hanging.





WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

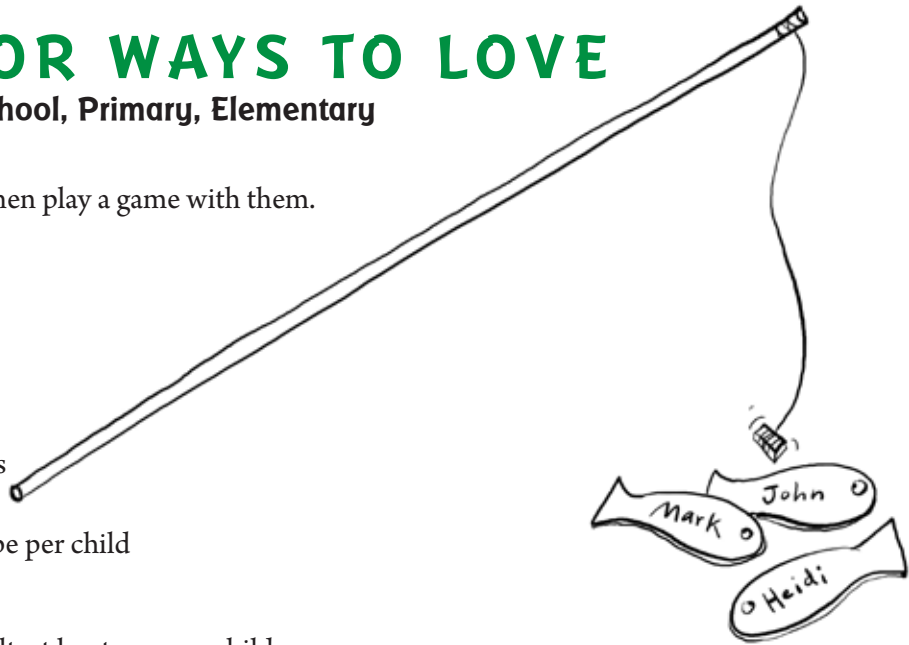
FISHING FOR WAYS TO LOVE

for Preschool, Primary, Elementary

Children make simple fishing poles and fish, then play a game with them.

Materials:

- dowel sticks
- string
- transparent tape
- scissors
- magnets: button magnets and magnet strips
- pens, pencils or markers
- gray felt, enough to make at least 1 fish shape per child



Preparation:

For preschool children, cut fish shapes from felt, at least one per child.

Directions:

Invite each child to make a fish and fishing pole as follows:

1. Tie a length of string to one end of the dowel stick to make the fishing pole. Add tape to secure the string to the pole.
2. On the other end of the string, tape a magnet.
3. Cut some fish shapes from the gray felt. Use markers to put your name on the fish.
4. Glue a piece of magnet strip to the backside of the fish.
5. To play a game as a group, put all of the fish together in a single-layer group. Have children “catch” a fish with their magnetic fishing poles. Whose fish do they catch? Remind the children that Jesus told his disciples to “fish for people.”

Variations:

Make several fish for each child, so they have a “catch” of fish to play with.

For children older than preschool, instead of writing their names on the fish, have them write some “fruit of the Spirit” such as *love, faith, hope, compassion, patience, gentleness* and other godly virtues and gifts. They can use just one fish per child, or make several.

You may also use paper clips to attach to the fish or to the fishing pole, rather than a magnet. The magnet on the pole or fish will attract the paper clip.



WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

“PETER AND ME” BOOK for Primary, Elementary

Children make a book to illustrate the times when we are like Peter.

Materials:

- white paper
- construction paper
- pencils
- crayons or markers
- scissors
- stapler

Preparation:

1. Cut the white paper in half, and then fold the half papers in half, to make the pages.
2. For the book covers, cut some sheets of construction paper in half to match the size of the folded white paper.

Directions:

1. Give a construction paper cover and some white sheets of paper to each child.
2. Invite the children to staple the book pages and the cover together.
3. On the left side of the white pages, have them draw pictures of different things that Peter did or different ways that he felt. Write, or have an adult write, a word or two about the picture (for example, *Peter got angry*).
4. On the right side of the pages, have them draw pictures of when they did the same kind of thing or felt the same kind of way.
5. Decorate the cover of the book.



WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

LAMB SNACKS

for Primary, Elementary

Children make a lamb-shaped treat out of marshmallows and toothpicks. These can be made during the gathering time, and then used at the storytelling time, before being eaten at the sharing time.

Materials:

large and small white marshmallows
toothpicks

Directions:

1. Give children a supply of marshmallows and toothpicks.
2. Show them the picture of the “lamb” below and let them make lamb-shaped snacks.





WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

DOUBLE MEMORY

for Primary, Elementary, Intermediate

Children play this game like the classic “Memory” or “Concentration” game, but with a twist!

Materials:

Life of Peter cards (pp. 24-25)
scissors

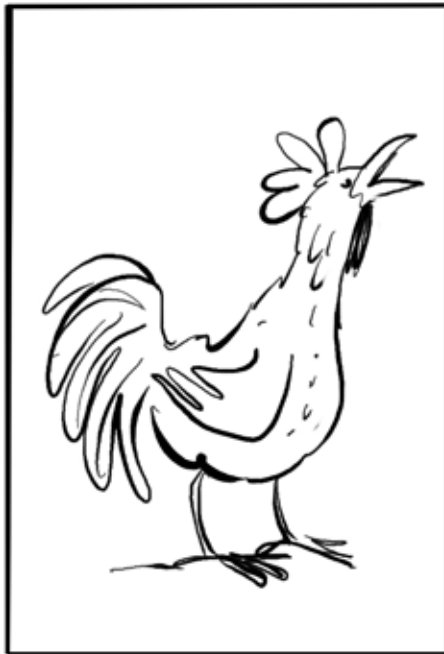
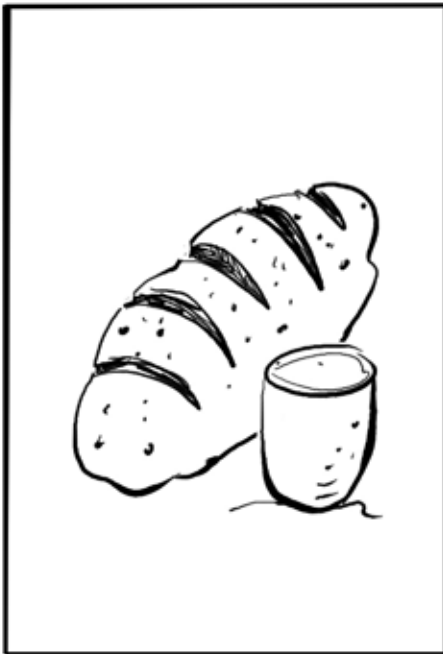
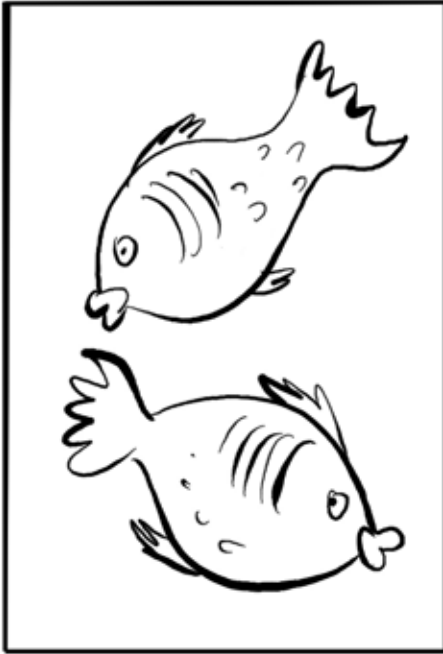
Preparation:

Make two copies of the Life of Peter cards, for a total of 24 cards. Cut the cards out. For a large class, make two sets of 24 cards and play two games simultaneously.

Directions:

1. Mix up the cards. Place them face down on the table or floor, in 4 rows of 6 cards each.
2. Pick someone to go first. That child turns over two cards *only*. If the cards match, the child may remove the cards, *but only if they remember how the picture is part of the Peter's story*. For example, if someone overturns two “fish,” he or she must say what Peter had to do with fish. There may be more than one right answer.
3. If the cards do not match, or if the child cannot remember the part of the story, the cards are put back face down in their original place. The turn then goes to somebody else.
4. Continue until all of the cards have been matched and the story told.







WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

“GO FISH, PETER” for Primary, Elementary, Intermediate

Children play the “Go Fish” card game, matching up pictures associated with Peter’s life.

Materials:

Life of Peter cards (pp. 24-25)
scissors

Preparation:

Make four copies of the 12 Life of Peter cards, preferably on card stock paper. Or copy on regular paper and glue them onto poster board paper. Cut the pages to separate the cards. Shuffle the deck.

If you have more than several children, make another set or two of the 12 pictures.

Directions:

Play this game like “Go Fish.” Children try to collect all 4 of the same cards, as follows:

1. Deal out five cards to each child. Put the remaining cards face down in the center of the group. If you have a large group, divide the children into small groups so that you have two or three games going at once.
2. Pick one child to go first. That child asks a particular child, “Do you have ...?” If yes, that child hands over the card or cards. If no, he or she responds, “Go Fish, Peter.” The asker then takes a card from the center pile and the turn goes to the person to the right.
3. When all four cards are held by one child, those cards are put down on the table.
4. Continue playing until all of the cards in the center have been taken and all cards have been put down.



WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES

“FEED MY SHEEP” GIFTS FOR OTHERS for Primary, Elementary, Intermediate

Children make a simple gift for someone—a friend, the elderly or homebound in your church, the clergy, parents, anyone in need.

Materials:

small glass jars with lids (canning jars), 1 per child
treats to fill jars: nuts or candy
white pompons
googly eyes
glue
black felt
fabric
scissors
rubber bands or ribbons

Directions:

Invite each child to assemble a gift as follows:

1. Fill the jar with treats and screw on the lid.
2. Cut a circle from the fabric to cover the top of the jar. Make the circle large enough so that it overlaps the edges by 1"-2".
3. Tie ribbon or rubber band around the fabric to hold it down.
4. Make sheep with the white pompons, the googly eyes and black felt for the nose, ears and legs. Use your imagination in creating your sheep.
5. Glue the sheep to the top of the jar onto the fabric.

