

AUGUST 2013

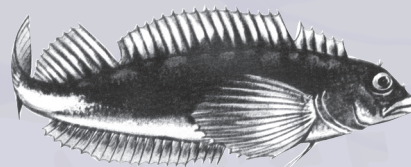
WODZONE

FISHING TOURS UNLIMITED

7

WHARF FISHING

Uncle Maui took Torrance and Cooper to do what many Kiwi kids do – fish from a wharf. They took all they needed for a day out: hat, sun block, warm clothing, lunch, drinking water, a first aid kit and, of course, their fishing lines, bait, and a bag to bring the catch home in. They had a wonderful day together and with lots of others too. And, yes, they did catch a couple of fish. Torrance caught a cockabully and Cooper a spotty. They were not big enough to eat themselves but a special treat for the cat. Then Uncle Maui told them another Bible story about Peter, the fisherman.



cockabully



spotty

RESTORED AS LEADER

Suddenly the net was full of squirming, wriggling, flapping fish. There were so many that the seven strong men couldn't drag the net onto the boat. They had to row to shore towing the net full of struggling fish and drag it up onto the beach to land a massive catch.

But who was the stranger on the beach? He had called out to them, "Let down your net on the right side of the boat."

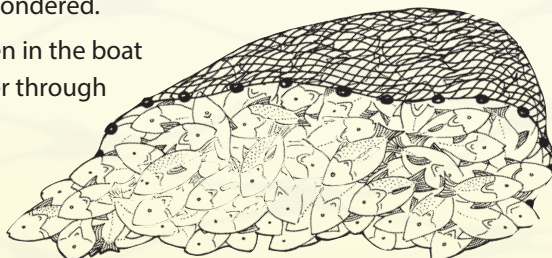
They all felt it was useless.

"We've fished all night and caught nothing," they shouted back.

But they did what the stranger said and the catch was amazing.

"But how did that stranger know that all those fish were there?" they wondered.

One of the men in the boat paused to peer through



the early morning mist and suddenly he recognised the stranger.

"It's Jesus, the Lord Jesus!" he whispered to Peter.



Peter realised he was right. He pulled on his fisherman's coat and dived into the water to swim ashore to Jesus. He was full of joy to be with Jesus again.

This was the third time Jesus had come to meet his disciples since he came back to life again after he died on the cross.

"Bring some of the fish you have caught," Jesus said.

They had counted them – 153!

Already Jesus had a fire burning and his own fish and bread cooking. They all gathered round the warm flames. It was just what the seven cold, wet, tired, hungry disciples needed – breakfast together on the beach.

It brought back memories for Peter. He thought of the time Jesus had helped him make another big catch of fish and then invited him to go with Jesus as his disciple.

A FISHY QUIZ

Here's a quiz about fish in the Bible.
Look up the references to check your answers.

1. When God made the world, who did he put in charge to care for the fish, animals and birds? (Psalm 8:4, 6–8)
2. When Aaron hit the water of the River Nile with Moses' stick, what happened to the fish? (Exodus 7:20–21)
3. Which King of Israel was very wise and talked about animals, birds, reptiles and fish? (1 Kings 4:29, 33)
4. For how many days and nights was Jonah swallowed by a big fish? (Jonah 1:17)
5. How many of Jesus' disciples used to be fishermen? (Mark 1:16–20)
6. How many fish were in the boy's lunch that Jesus used to feed 5,000 families? (John 6:9)
7. What did Simon Peter find in the mouth of the fish that Jesus told him to catch? (Matthew 17:27)
8. How many fish did the disciples catch before they had breakfast on the beach with Jesus? (John 21:11)

A VERSE TO LEARN

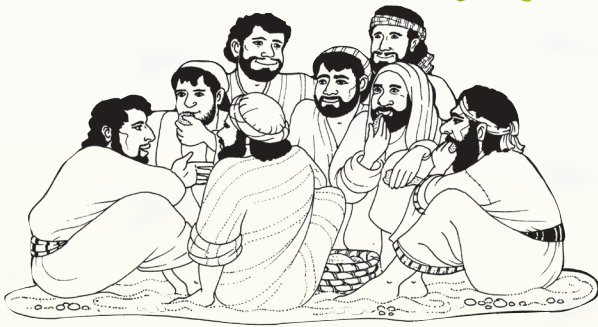
Can you read this verse? Some words are in code. Here's the key:

1 = A; 2 = D; 3 = E; 4 = F; 5 = I; 6 = N; 7 = O;
8 = R; 9 = T.

Here is the verse:

Be 23938M5632 and C76452369. Do 679 be 148152 The Lord himself will be with you. He will 679 415L you or 1B16276 you.

Look up Deuteronomy 31: 6 in a Good News Bible to check your answer.



After breakfast Jesus asked Peter the same question three times: "Peter, do you really love me?"

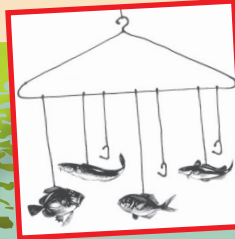
Each time Peter answered: "Yes Lord, you know I really do love you."

He felt hurt that Jesus asked three times. But they all remembered that Peter had warmed himself at another fire with the soldiers who arrested Jesus. There Peter felt afraid and lied three times saying, "I don't know Jesus and I don't follow him."

"Look after my people," Jesus said to Peter.

Now they all knew that Peter was forgiven and restored as the leader of all the disciples of Jesus.

Read the story for yourself from the Bible in John 21: 1–17.



A FISH MOBILE

You will need a coat hanger, some card, felt pens, scissors, a hole punch, string and some paper clips.

Draw different shaped fish on the card using different colours and cut them out. Make a hole in the middle of the top of each fish. Tie different lengths of string to each fish. Open up the paper clips to make them look like fish hooks and tie different lengths of string to them too.

Tie the fish and hooks to different places on the coat hanger. Hang your mobile on a string near a window so that it spins in the wind.

FISHING FOR FACTS

Did you make a list of what you needed to take for a day of fishing on the wharf? Compare your list with what Torrance and Cooper took in the Wharf Fishing story. Did you remember everything or take some other things? This month see if you can label the correct names for the five different fins on this fish. Write the numbers on the fins.

1. Dorsal fin;
2. Anal fin;
3. Pelvic fin;
4. Pectoral fin;
5. Tail fin.



A PRAYER

Thank you, Lord Jesus, that when we let you down and are sorry, you restore us as your friends. Please help us to be determined and confident as we follow you. Amen.

Compiled by Ron Fountain