

The Story of St. Peter

Biblical text:

‘God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God’s many kinds of blessings.’

(1 Peter 4.10)

Actions:

The actions slowly build up throughout the story. They come immediately before each part of the story, one more each time.

Fisherman (cast net, pull in)

Holy man (hands together)

Growing (from having hands together, open out arms to symbolise growth)

Cherish (cuddle yourself)

Flourished (arms even further apart)

Served God (lift hands to heaven)

We can be like Peter (look or point to each other)

Peter was a fisherman.

Peter worked hard and he was used to rowing his boat and pulling in large catches of fish.

Peter was a fisherman, Peter was a holy man.

Peter worked hard, but he also knew that God was more important than anything else. So when Jesus asked Peter to follow him, Peter went with Jesus. Peter realised that Jesus had been sent by God.

Peter was a fisherman, Peter was a holy man, Peter grew.

Peter sometimes thought he knew what Jesus was all about. Sometimes he was right. But sometimes he was wrong. That was OK because it was only by being corrected by Jesus that Peter began to really understand that God's big idea was that everyone everyone should love and cherish one another.

Peter was a fisherman, Peter was a holy man, Peter grew, Peter learnt to cherish everyone, Peter flourished.

After Jesus had been killed, the most amazing thing happened to Peter. Peter met Jesus. Jesus was alive again! And that was a message that Peter just had to let everyone know about. Peter was still a fisherman. He sometimes still fished. But he also realised that he was good at telling others his amazing story, the amazing story about Jesus. As well as being a fisherman, Peter had found something he loved doing.

Peter was a fisherman, Peter was a holy man, Peter grew, Peter cherished everyone, Peter flourished, Peter served God and other people

And as Peter told his story, the story of Jesus, small groups came together in the places he had been. Some might have been fishermen, like Peter. Some might have been teachers, blacksmiths, merchants, or have had any job at all. They supported each other because everyone is good at something and no one is good at everything. Peter helped these small groups to understand Jesus' teaching for themselves and he served in other ways: he healed people and made sure that there was enough food to go around. Peter served them and they served one another and together they grew in faith, learnt to cherish each other and flourished. Those first groups became the Church.

Peter was a fisherman, Peter was a holy man, Peter grew, Peter cherished everyone, Peter flourished, Peter served God and other people. We can be like Peter.

We can grow in understanding and confidence, we can love and cherish everyone, we can live in ways that make us flourish, we can serve others.

Peter was a fisherman, Peter was a holy man, Peter grew, Peter cherished everyone, Peter flourished, Peter served God and other people. We can be like Peter.