

## The risen Jesus and the disciples

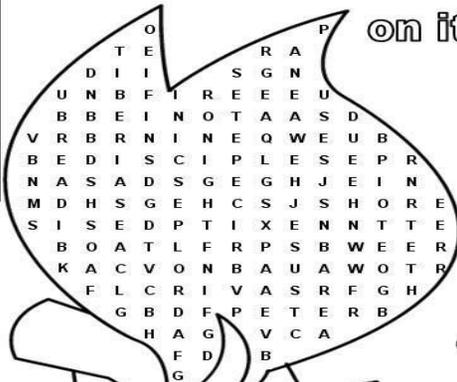
(John 21:1-15)



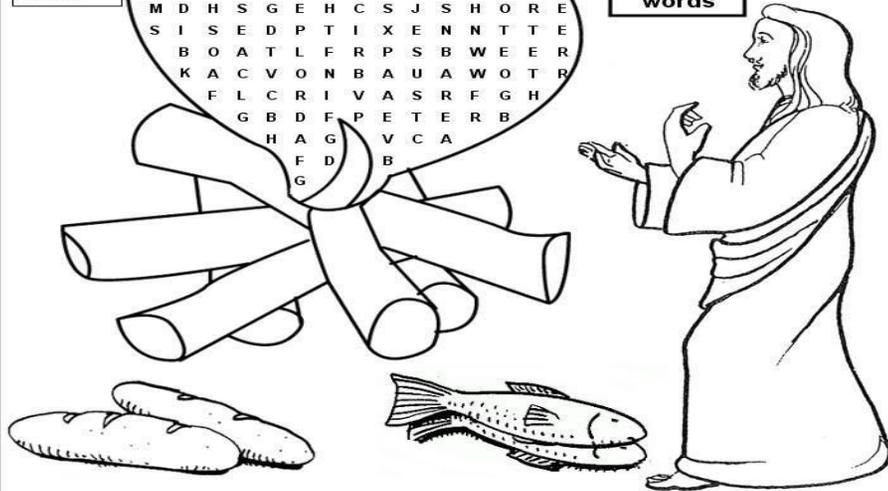
When they climbed  
out on shore, they  
saw a charcoal  
fire with fish  
on it and bread.



Tiberias  
Jesus  
Sea  
Disciples  
Peter  
Boat  
Night  
Shore  
Net  
Fish  
Lord  
Fire  
Bread



Find the  
hidden  
words



## Coldwater Church of Christ

Welcome to our services. March 25, 2018

Potluck - Next Sunday - April 15, 2018 .

Linda Young got some good news. The biopsy she had recently came back with positive results. Thank the Lord for this good news.

Cathleen's toe is beginning to heal and she is getting over her recent illness. She hopes to be here today. Please continue to pray for healing.

We want to thank Cindy Flaughter for her many years handling the food pantry, and welcome Crystal who will take over. Any questions about the pantry, see Crystal.

The M.A.G.I. Boxes are here. If you'd like to put together a box, or two, please take them from the bench in the vestibule. There's also a list of suggested items to fill the box. Thanks in advance for helping! The boxes are due September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Remember to include \$7 in an envelope in your box.

The memorial service for Tim Slomers will be here on March 31<sup>st</sup>. The viewing will begin at 11 a.m. with the service beginning at 1 p.m. A dinner organized by Beth will be after the service. Thanks Beth for handling this.

The Camp Indogan Spring Dinner is April 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4:30. The cost is \$15 per person, or \$25 per couple. A flyer is on the bulletin board.

Save the Date: This year's Ladies' Day is planned for Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 11-2. Our speaker will be Yvon Forehand of the Oakland Church of Christ. Copies of the flyer are on the table in the vestibule. Please take some to share.

HELP! We are in need of someone willing to take over updating the directory. If you'd like to help, please see David.

This week's item for the food pantry is jelly. Please bring in your donation and put it in the pantry. Last week's item was canned soup.

Our next Family Friend Day is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please invite your friends and family to join us in our monthly potluck.

Sunday evening services begin again tonight at 6 p.m. Please join us!

### Those Important Keys

Throughout history keys have come in many forms. The most ancient key and lock documented to date (illustrated below) are described by Joseph Bonomi in his book, *Nineveh and its Palaces*. Bonomi observed this lock on a door in a palace at Khorsabad in Mesopotamia. "At the end of the hall," he writes, "was a massive single-leaf door, closing an exit. It was locked by a heavy wooden lock of the type which may still be seen in the East. The key,

also of wood, was of such dimensions that it had to be carried on the shoulder. This key operates a wooden bar, which slides from right to left and enters a square mortise in the wall."

In the book of Matthew, we learn of some most important keys (see Matthew 16:13-19). Jesus has been travelling the countryside, and many people have been speculating as to his actual identity. In a private moment, Jesus turns to his disciples to ask them what is being said about him. It seems that there were several ideas of his identity circulating among the people. But then Peter, under revelation, gives his own answer in what will be the most important truth ever heard by human ear: "You are the Christ [or 'the Messiah'], the Son of the living God." This is the monumental truth which would become the foundation for the Kingdom of God. No one, no place, nothing could be worthy of being the Rock on which the Christ's Church would be built, other than the perfect Son of God, Christ the Messiah himself. The Church will not be built on the weakness of human flesh, rather on the perfect and absolute divinity of Jesus Christ.

**Jesus tells Peter that he has been blessed by God in this truth, and that Peter would soon hold the keys to the Kingdom. And what would be these all-important keys?**

We soon see after Christ's death that the Jews are convicted by their sin of murder of Jesus, and ask on the Day of Pentecost, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). They are essentially asking, "Are there any keys for us to open the door of salvation which is now closed to us? What will unlock the mercy of God?" In response, Peter fulfills Christ's words by sharing the keys of the kingdom, those precious keys which allows every sinner then and now to be covered by the saving blood of Christ. Based upon their conviction ([faith](#)) that Jesus was the promised Messiah and the Son of God, Peter instructed them: "[Repent](#), and let every one of you be [baptized](#) [immersed] in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38).

**Those SAME "keys" will "unlock the door of God's mercy" that He has extended through Christ and enable you to access His forgiveness and the gift of eternal life, =IF= you will "turn the key" through your trusting obedience.**