



David seemed a bit annoyed when he got home from school. “Want a cookie and some milk?” his mother asked.

David shook his head no.

“That’s surprising,” his mother said. “You must have something bothering you. Want to tell me what it is?”

David told his mother that he could not understand how his religion teacher could expect him to love God the most. “That doesn’t make sense. I really believe in God, but how can I love God more than I love you and Dad?”

“I didn’t understand that either when I was a young girl,” said Mom. “It bothered me so much that I went to talk to one of the priests in my parish.”

David was curious. “What did he say?”

Mom told David that the priest explained that people have different ways of using the word *love*. Sometimes they say they “love” certain kinds of food or music or a possession or an activity. But we do not actually “love” things the way we “love” people. “The priest said that God knows I love my parents, and it is okay. Our parents love us and do loving things for us. They teach us to do loving things for others.”

After a short pause, Mom went on. “When I got older, I realized that when I try hard to do the right thing, even when it is really difficult, I am loving God the best. When I treat other people with love, I am loving God the best. Jesus tells us this in the Bible when he says that whatever we do for others, we really do for him.”

Read John 21:1-19 and then close your Bible and see if you can answer the following questions. If you need help, open your Bible again and check the verse that appears at the end of the question.

LOVING



1. What are Peter and the disciples doing at the beginning of the reading? (v. 3)

EATING GOING FISHING SLEEPING

2. Do the disciples immediately recognize Jesus when they see him? (v. 4)

YES NO

3. What is the first thing Jesus says to his disciples? (v. 5)

CHILDREN, HAVE YOU CAUGHT ANYTHING?
FEED MY LAMBS

4. What was the miracle Jesus performed for the disciples? (v. 6)

THE DISCIPLES CAUGHT A GREAT MANY FISH
JESUS WALKED ON WATER

GOD THE MOST



Mom put a plate of cookies and a glass of milk in front of David. He picked up a cookie and said, “I guess this means I should think of love differently sometimes.”

“That’s right,” Mom replied, pleased that David seemed to understand a little more about love.

We learn new things about love all the time. We love God the most in loving others.

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5. Who was the first person to recognize Jesus? (v. 7)

PETER

THE DISCIPLE WHOM JESUS LOVED

6. Why did Jesus light a charcoal fire? (v. 9)

PETER WAS COLD

HE WANTED TO COOK BREAKFAST FOR THE DISCIPLES

7. Was this the first time Jesus appeared to his disciples after the Resurrection? (v. 14)

NO YES

8. How many times did Jesus ask Peter if Peter loved him? (v. 17)

TWO THREE FOUR

