

Kids' Chronicle

Jesus speaks of a mystery

BY JOE SARNICOLA

While traveling through the land of Galilee, Jesus guided his disciples on a route that was not used very often. He chose this path because he did not want to be seen and have crowds gather around him. The disciples complained that the rough road was tough on their feet.

When they reached a shady spot by a cool, quiet stream, Jesus said, "Sit, my friends. I know you are tired. Drink and refresh yourselves."

The men sat down, drank from the stream and rubbed their aching feet.

Jesus looked at each of his disciples and said, "What I am going to tell you is a mystery. The Son of Man will be killed by men, but three days will pass and his life will return to him."

The disciples looked at each other. They did not know what Jesus was talking about.

Who was the Son of Man?

Who were these men who would kill him?

And how could he come back to life after three days?

But there was something in the tone of Jesus' voice that made them afraid to ask him what he meant.

Jesus stood up and began walking along the road. He kept to himself and his disciples asked him no questions. Jesus could tell some of them were arguing behind him, but he kept his silence.

When they reached Capernaum, Jesus and the disciples found a place to stay for the night. When they were seated together, Jesus asked, "What were you arguing about as we were traveling?"

The disciples were embarrassed and

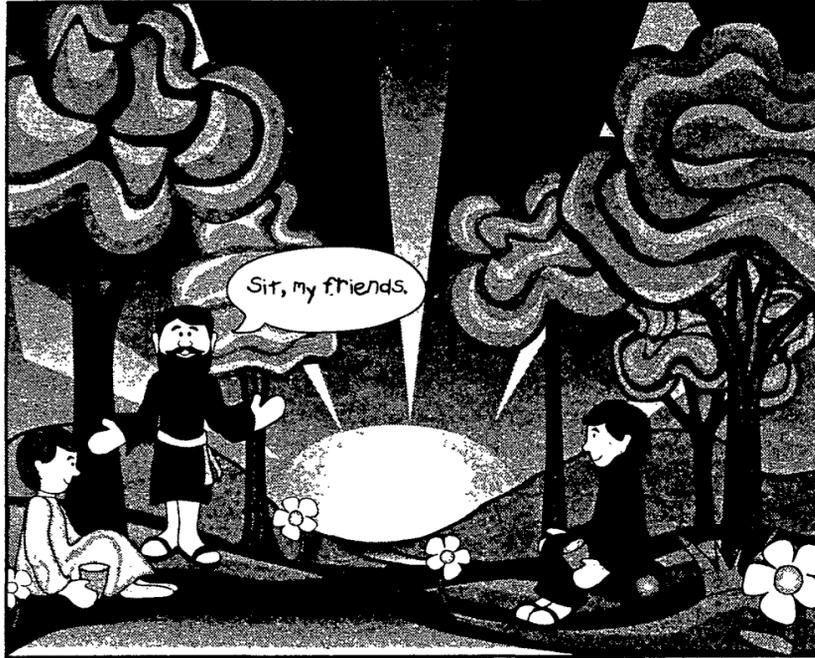


Illustration by Zoe Maves

could not look Jesus in the face. They looked away or down at the floor.

"If you will not tell me," Jesus said, "then I will tell you. You wonder who among you is the greatest. Is this true James, Peter, John?"

Before anyone could answer, Jesus continued, "The person who is the greatest is the person who serves others and does not see himself as important."

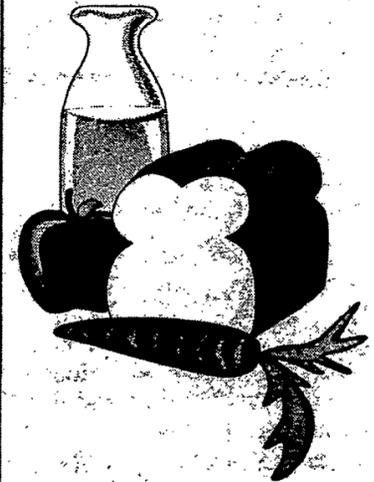
At that moment, the son of the innkeeper came in to ask if the men needed anything to eat or drink. Jesus put his arms around the boy's shoulders and said, "In order to enter the kingdom of heaven, you must become like a

child. Whoever is kind to the children has also shown kindness to me. Beyond that, he has shown kindness to my father who is in heaven."

Q&A

READ MORE ABOUT IT:
Mark 9

1. Why did Jesus take a difficult route?
2. What mystery did Jesus tell his disciples?



Bible Accent

In addition to his preaching, Jesus healed many sick people. He wanted to show his concern for our health.

Nutritionists today say that we should eat a balanced diet and avoid excessive cholesterol, fat and chemical additives. The Bible contains many references to foods that are healthy to eat. Canaan was more than a land of milk and honey. It was "a land that produces wheat and barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and honey." (Dt 8:8)

Certain foods can lower blood pressure, increase energy, or supply important vitamins and minerals. We should watch what we eat because God wants us to "be in good health." (3-Jn 2)

St. Peter Claver

St. Peter Claver was born in Spain in 1581. He became a Jesuit priest and a missionary to the port city of Cartagena.

One of his duties was to minister to the slaves who were being transported by ship. He gave them food and medicine, and with the help of interpreters, he taught them about Jesus. Many of the slaves responded to his teaching and asked to be baptized.

St. Peter Claver continued his ministry in spite of resentment from the slave traders, until poor health forced him to return home. We remember him on Sept. 9.

Bible Trivia

The book of Mark is one of the four Gospels. What does "gospel" mean?

Send Answer to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N. Y. 14624. Please include your name, address and school name.

All entries must be received by Oct. 9, 1997. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted.

Last month's winner was Ashley Wancha, a student at St. Ann School, Hornell. She correctly identified John as the other son of Zebedee.

Puzzle

Answers on page 18.

Using the clues, find the foods below that are mentioned in the Bible.

1. Mark 8:34 _ _ _ h
2. Matthew 5:13 _ a _ _
3. Mark 4:3 _ _ _ i _
4. Mark 11:13 _ _ g _
5. Luke 6:44 _ r _ _ _
6. Luke 13:19 _ _ _ t _ _
7. John 6:26 b _ _ _ _



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