



Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2022



Take your Pulse

What is your favorite form of exercise?

What health concern weighs you down?

Today's Reading

Matthew Chapter 17

Do you ever just read a story in the Gospel and wonder—What just happened there? Here chapter 17 ends with this strange story, Jesus tells Peter to go catch a fish, and in that fish will be a coin, and Peter is to take that coin to pay the tax. But the story ends there. It does not tell us if Peter actually went out and caught a fish. It does not give us Peter's reaction to finding a coin in a random fish. It doesn't tell us if the others went with him and watched to see if what Jesus said would come true. How could Jesus know that Peter would catch a random fish with a coin in its mouth. Perhaps the Gospel writer leaves the mystery so we can focus on another part of the story.



Start the Thinking

What does it mean when Jesus says the children are free?



Conversing with God

God of the fish of the sea, you claim all your children, and you approach all your children with great love. While currency is important for earthly transactions, you cancel all our debt to you in the death and resurrection of Jesus, ending any need for any child to pay to receive you. Help us to proclaim this freedom of your Kingdom. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen



Be blessed

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine brightly upon you that you experience all God's grace. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen