



Children's Sermon for August 22

(based on John 6:56-69)

Items needed: picture of a tree, some leaves that have fallen from some tree, a cross.

Show the tree picture and ask what it is. A tree! What starts to happen, at this time of year, to many trees? At this time of year, many trees begin to lose leaves (show the leaves you have brought). It may look like the tree is dying, but it is not. And when the tree loses leaves you can actually see better what the tree looks like---the shape of the main part, which is called the trunk, and the shapes of the many branches. In today's Bible reading, many of the followers of Jesus leave Jesus, kind of like the tree whose leaves are falling away. But just like you can see the tree better when the leaves fall away, you can see Jesus better when some of His followers fall away (show cross) this is what Jesus looks like, when He's "bare" like a bare tree in the fall. A cross of love, a cross of mercy, a cross of giving yourself. Whether Jesus has many followers, or He is standing all by Himself, Jesus is LOVE.

Dave Quinn