Reflection: The Parable of Juan  
and the Fishbowl

Student Name: Group Members:

Level I

Describe Juan’s background.

What did Juan find?

Why was he so delighted with it?

What did he first do with his great find?

What did Juan do the first time he became bored with his find?

What did Juan do the second time be became bored with his find?

Why did Juan get frustrated?

What advice did Juan’s mother give him?

Level II

What do you think the various people and elements symbolize in the story?

* Juan
* fishbowl
* decorations in the bowl
* fish
* Juan’s desire to become a fish
* Juan’s family’s poverty

Level III

What does this parable tell us about why God created humanity?

Why do humans choose to turn away from goodness and God?

What does the Incarnation reveal to us about God’s hope for us?

Why doesn’t God simply avoid the kind of frustration that Juan expressed and “make” people behave better, treat each other better, and be in closer relationship with God?

What aspect of Jesus’ Incarnation do you think is more difficult to grasp and believe: his humanity or his divinity? Why?