

Lesson 60 John 21: 1-25 Follow Me!

Pray: Before you begin lift your heart to God and ask for the Spirit's help as you read the passage and work through these questions in His divine presence and you certainly will be given understanding.

Background:

Sea of Tiberias was another name for the Sea of Galilee.

The Sons of Zebedee were another name for James and John (Matthew 4:21). Luke 5:10 mentions that James and John were partners with Simon Peter in the fishing business before being called to follow Jesus.

"Stretch out your hands" This phrase in bible times was a way of referring to crucifixion.

Key Words or Phrases:

1) Love: Strongs G25 "agapao" to love and delight in. A commitment of the will is usually involved. This word is used often in the New Testament to refer to God's love towards His own; a committed , steadfast love. It can also refer to man's reciprocal love towards God.

2) Love: Strong's G 5368 "phileo" to be a friend to, have affection for. It is very much related to agapao and the two words are sometimes used interchangeably.

Follow : Strong's G190 "akoloutheo" this Greek word is a derivative of "keleuthos" which means "road". "Akoloutheo" means to be in the same way with, that is to accompany.

Read John 21:1-25

1. Jesus now appears to some of his disciples for a third time. According to 21:1-3 where were they, and who was there?

2. The night before Jesus appeared the 7 disciples had gone out fishing on their own. What was the result? 21:5

3. What directions did Jesus give them from the beach? 21:6 When they obeyed Jesus' directions what was the result?

Application: Jesus will soon be sending the disciples out into the world to spread the gospel. What lesson is Jesus trying to teach them? How can you apply that lesson to the command the Lord has given us all in Matthew 28:18-20?

After preparing breakfast for the disciples and eating with them, Jesus singles out Peter to speak to individually.

4. What does Jesus ask Peter three times in 21:15-17? What was Peter's response each time?

5. Jesus also gives Peter a three fold commission in 21:15-17 and then a way to carry out that commission in 21:19. What is the three fold commission and the command?

Application: We may not be called to the same ministry as Peter, but the Lord has a ministry for each of us. Like Peter, what should be the foundation of our ministry? How do we in practical terms "follow" Jesus when carrying out that ministry?

6. What did Peter ask Jesus about John in 21:21 and what did Jesus answer in 21:22?

Application: Jesus calls all believers to follow him in individual ways. When we see our way is more difficult than that of another Christian, what sin or sins are we likely to fall into? How can we avoid this according to Jesus' words in 21:22?

7. John begins and ends his gospel with Jesus. How does this reflect his heart and his purpose in writing (see 20:31)?