



Week of May 5, 2019

John 21:1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way.

² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples.

³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No."

⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.

⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea.

⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught."

¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn.

¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord.

¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."

¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go."

¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."



Group Leader

Remember: you don't need to use all of the questions. Go with what works. Give people a chance to think before answering, but if a question falls flat, move on. Let the discussion go where it needs to go, as long as it remains centered around the lesson. Give the participants page 1. Use this page for yourself.

Gathering questions:

- A. If you couldn't do what you do (or used to do) for a living, what would you have done instead?
- B. What would you say is a distinguishing feature of the culture you grew up in? (Define "culture" any way you want – ethnicity, geography, etc.)

Bible Study Questions:

1. In verse 3, what is the significance that Peter announces that he is going fishing?
2. Why do you think the disciples don't recognize Jesus?
3. In verse 6, if they don't yet know that it is Jesus, why do you think they followed his advice?
4. What lesson is Jesus teaching the disciples in providing a huge haul of fish?
5. Jesus' instruction to Peter is "feed my lambs/tend my sheep/feed my sheep." Do the differences in specific words carry meaning for you?
6. How do you think the threefold question about whether Peter loves Jesus then relates to Jesus telling Peter how he is going to die in verse 18?
7. Imagine Jesus saying directly to you: "feed my sheep." What comes to mind as to the specific action Jesus would be asking of you?
8. If you simply hear the instruction, "be brave", what would you think of with regard to your life? Where do you need to be more brave?

Closing prayer: Particularly ask for prayers about being brave.