

Ice Breaker:

What was your favorite *question Jesus asked*, that we discussed this series?

Groups Discussion Questions:

What stood out to you in this week's message?

Were you able to apply that to your life already this week?

Read John 21:1-14

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: 2 Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. 3 "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

4 Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

5 He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?"

"No," they answered.

6 He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

7 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. 8 The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. 9 When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." 11 So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. 14 This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Why do you think these men went back to fishing?

How would they feel, considering everything that has happened in the last month, to now fish for a whole night and catch nothing?

When have you felt that way?

What would have been your response to someone telling you to try the other side?

In your devotions this week, you learned that fishermen commonly only fished off the left side for two reasons. First, if there was an oar it was mounted on the other side. Secondly, pulling in fish was easier from the left because most people were dominant in their right arm. So, Jesus' suggestion to fish off the other side would not have made sense. Yet they obeyed. When have you been led by Jesus to do something that doesn't make sense in the world's eyes?

What happened when the disciples obeyed Jesus' unusual directions?

Isn't it amazing that the net didn't tear? What if the disciples had seen the huge catch of fish, but were too nervous to pull it in because it could tear! How do we do that in our Christians lives and miss the miracle God is doing?

Why do you think Peter recognized Jesus?

Why did Jesus eat with them?

Read John 21:15-19

Jesus Reinstates Peter

15 *When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"*

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

16 *Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"*

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

17 *The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"*

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. 18 Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." 19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

Picture yourself in Peter's position. How would it feel to be sitting with Jesus like this?

Jesus asked *do you love me*, three times. Was it the same question each time?

Why did Jesus say, *feed my sheep*?

How would you respond to these questions from Jesus?

Jesus ends his conversation with Peter with the same words He first spoke to the disciples. What are they?

What does it mean to Follow Jesus?

Prayer

Digging Deeper

Read John 21:20-25

20 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”) **21** When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?”

22 Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.” **23** Because of this, the rumor spread among the believers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?”

24 This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

25 Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

When is the last time you asked, “What about _____” in your heart and mind?

Why is it so hard for us to avoid the comparison game with other believers?

When other believers have things or get to do things we do not, and we feel envy creeping up, what should we do?

Does envy show that we trust in God or mistrust His character?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Unity and Diversity in the Body

12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. **13** For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. **14** Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

15 Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. **16** And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. **17** If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? **18** But in fact God has placed the parts in the body,

every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. **19** If they were all one part, where would the body be?**20** As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" **22** On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, **23** and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, **24** while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, **25** so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. **26** If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.**28** And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. **29** Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? **30** Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? **31** Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

What stands out to you?

How does this relate to Peter's conversation with Jesus about John?

How does this passage speak into your life right now?