
John 21:1-19 – Lesson 2

A former fisherman, Peter had a turbulent relationship with Jesus. One of the first disciples chosen, Peter became part of the inner circle of those who followed Jesus. His love for Jesus enabled him to walk on water (Matthew 14:29), then sink miserably when he doubted. He felt free to rebuke Jesus for predicting his own death, only to be told, “Get behind me, Satan!” (Matthew 16:23). He constantly declared his absolute allegiance to Jesus, then denied him three times when association with Jesus became risky (John 18:15-27). The account in John 21 occurred soon after Jesus rose from the dead. It was the second time he had appeared to his disciples. *Read John 21:1-19.*

PERSONAL REFLECTION:

- *What difference does being a Christian make in your life?*
- *Thank God for what his presence has meant in your life just in the last few days.*

GROUP DISCUSSION:

- 1) What might Peter have been thinking when he and the other disciples decided to go fishing?
- 2) How did Peter respond when John recognized Jesus? What may have accounted for his unusual behavior?
- 3) How did Jesus reassure Peter of his love?
- 4) Examine the interchange between Jesus and Peter in verses 15-17. Why do you think Jesus kept asking Peter the same question?
- 5) What do you think Peter was feeling? (See especially v. 17.)

- 6) What did Jesus mean by telling Peter to feed and tend his sheep?

- 7) How does serving others demonstrate our love for Jesus?

- 8) According to verses 18-19, what consequences would Peter face for his obedience to Jesus?

- 9) Why do you think Peter followed Jesus anyhow?

- 10) How do you think Jesus is calling you to serve him? Who are the “sheep” he is calling you to feed and tend?

- 11) How can you begin doing that, or preparing for it, right now?

- 12) *Read Matthew 25:31-46* Jesus describes specific ways that he expects us to love him by serving others. Who are the hungry, thirsty, strangers, naked, sick and imprisoned in your life?

- 13) How could you, either as an individual or with a group, serve these people in concrete ways?