

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

LESSON 22 - JOHN CHAPTER 21

ASSIGNMENT

READ John chapter 21.

MEMORIZE John 20:27,28.

“Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered, and said unto him, My Lord and my God.”

KEY WORDS

The key words in this chapter are: **“Lovest thou me?” “Follow Me.”**

OUTLINE OF JOHN CHAPTER 21

- A. Seven disciples went fishing, John 21:1-3.
- B. The great catch, John 21:4-6.
- C. Jesus and the disciples, John 21:7-14.
- D. Jesus and Peter, John 21:15-23.
 - 1. Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?
 - 2. Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?
 - 3. Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?
 - 4. The life and death of Peter.
 - 5. “Follow me.”
- E. Closing words, John 21:24,25.

LOOKING AT JOHN CHAPTER 21

John finished his writing with chapter 20. Afterward he added chapter 21. Some people believe that someone else wrote this chapter. However, all evangelical Bible teachers believe chapter 21 was written by John. This chapter was sent out to the churches with the rest of the Gospel of John. It was not sent out later.

- A. Seven disciples went fishing, John 21:1-3.**

What was Mary to tell the disciples? Matthew 28:10

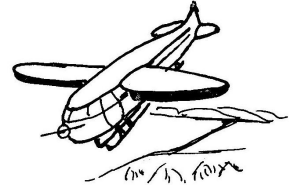
“Go tell my brethren that they into , and there shall they me.”

Where were the disciples? John 21:1 At the Sea of

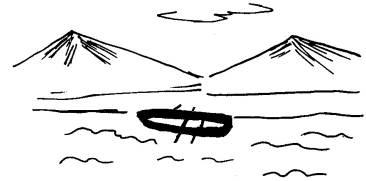
What is another name for the Sea of Tiberias? John 6:1 Sea of

Did the disciples go to Galilee?

Have you ever waited for someone a long time? The writer lived in the north for several years. One time he waited a whole week for a plane to come. It was hard to wait. He was always listening for a plane to come. At last a plane came in. It was not the plane he was waiting for. The writer thought he could not wait any longer. He went on that plane.



The disciples were waiting for Jesus. It seems that Peter found it hard to wait. He had to do something. Maybe he needed food. Maybe he was tired of waiting.



What did Peter say he would do? John 21:3

He said, “ .”

Peter was not alone. Some of the disciples were with him.

Which disciples were with Peter? 1) , 2) ,

3) and 4) the sons of , 5) and 6) two other .

Who were the two sons of Zebedee? Matthew 10:2 and .

What did the other disciples say they would do? John 21:3

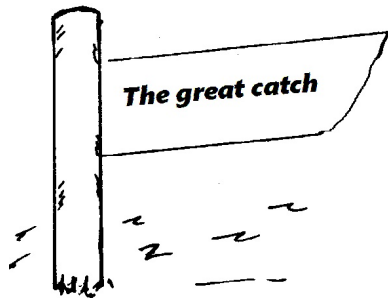
“ with thee.”

These men knew all about fishing. They had been fishermen for many years. They fished all night.

How many fish did they catch? John 21:3 .

They must have been tired and disappointed.

B. The great catch, John 21:4-6.



Who was standing on the shore in the morning?

John 21:4

Did the disciples know who was on the shore?

What did Jesus ask the disciples? John 21:5

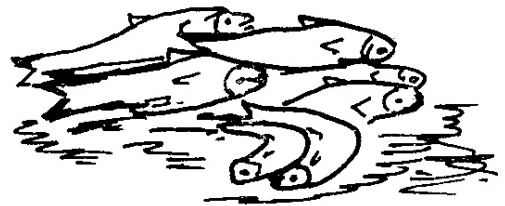
“ _____, *have ye any food?*”

In other words, “Did you catch any fish?”

Did they have any fish?

What did Jesus ask them to do? John 21:6

“ _____ *the _____ on the _____ of the _____*
, and ye shall find.”



The disciples did not know it was Jesus. Yet they obeyed.

Did they catch any fish? John 21:6

How many fish did they catch? John 21:11 _____ fish.

Was the net broken?

Jesus loved the disciples. He called them “children.” Jesus cares for His followers as a father cares for his children.

Jesus also wanted to show the disciples they could not do anything without Him.

Jesus says in John 15:5

“ _____ *ye can do _____.*”

We can learn from this. Jesus loves us and takes care of us. But without the help of Jesus we cannot do anything. Jesus gives us strength to do the things we are to do, Philippians 4:13.

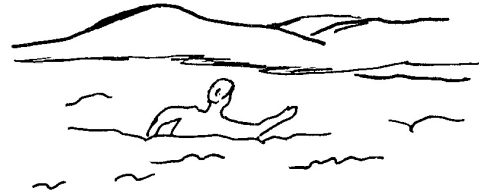
C. Jesus and the disciples, John 21:7-14.

Who was the first disciple to know it was Jesus? John 21:7

What did Peter do when he heard it was Jesus?

John 21:7

Peter did things quickly. He never seemed to be able to wait. Sometimes he did the right thing. Sometimes he did the wrong thing. He could not wait for Jesus. He had gone fishing. When Jesus came along the shore he did not wait for the other disciples. He swam to shore to talk to Jesus.



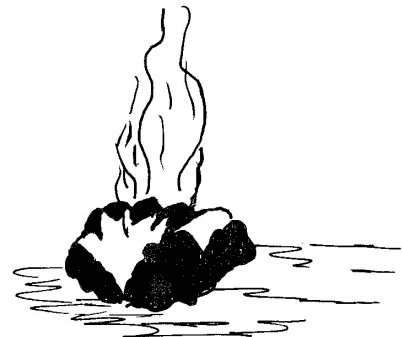
The other disciples brought the boat and the fish to shore.

How far were they from shore? . (300 feet).

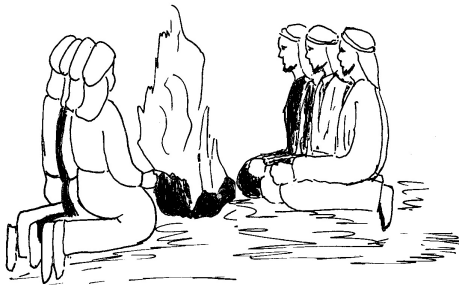
This is about 100 big steps when a man walks. Nights are cool in Palestine. The disciples worked all night. They were tired. They came to shore.

What did Jesus have ready for the disciples?

John 21:9 He had a _____ of coals, _____ with some _____ and _____ laid on the fire.



It must have been good to have a fire to warm up by and food to eat. Jesus served the disciples. He provided them with food for their stomachs. Then Jesus provided the disciples with food for their souls.



Jesus had fish and bread ready.

But He also asked the disciples to bring of the _____ they caught. (John 21:10).

Jesus said, John 21:12 “ _____ and _____ .”

This means come and eat. Jesus had breakfast with His disciples. He took the

bread and the fish and gave them to His disciples. This was the way they used to eat. The disciples knew this man was Jesus.

Jesus ate with His disciples. A spirit cannot eat. Jesus had a real body. He could eat. The disciples could see His body. Jesus used His hands to take bread and fish. Jesus gave food to the disciples. Jesus was real. (The disciples could see Him eat the food.)

What does John say about Jesus in 1 John 1:1?

*“which we have
which we have
our hands have* ,
*with our eyes,
of the Word of Life.”*

After the meal Jesus began to talk to Peter.

D. Jesus and Peter.

Jesus loved Peter.

Even though Peter had sinned, Jesus took time to talk to him. Jesus was not angry with Peter. Jesus talked to Peter in love.

What did Jesus ask Peter?

- 1) “Simon, son of Jonas, _____?”
- 2) “Simon, son of Jonas, _____?”
- 3) “Simon, son of Jonas, _____?”
1. **“Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?”**

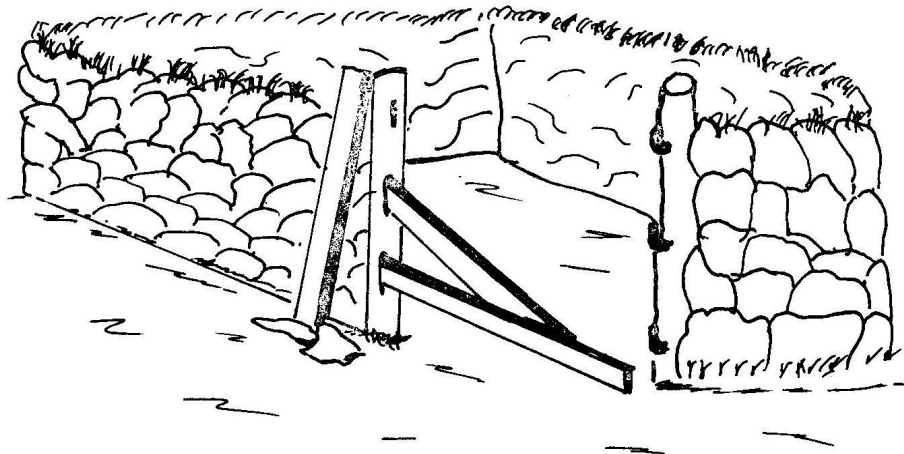
Jesus used the name Simon.

What other names did Jesus give to Simon? John 1:42 _____ ;

Luke 6:14 _____ .

Cephas and Peter mean “rock.” When Peter denied Jesus he did not act like a “rock.” Jesus used his old name, Simon.

Jesus used a word for love which means “God's love.” Jesus asked,



enough. The teacher must have the love of God. Children are important to Jesus. It is very important to teach children about Jesus. We can see how important they are when we think of lambs.

Safe?

Said a precious Little Laddie
To his father one bright day
“May I give myself to Jesus
Let Him wash my sins away?”

Oh my son, but you're so little
Wait until you older grow
Bigger folks 'tis true do need Him
But little folks are safe, y'know.”

Said the father to his Laddie
As a storm was coming on
“Are the sheep all safely sheltered
Safe within the fold, my son?”

“All the big ones are, my father
But the Lambs I let them go
For I didn't think it mattered
Little ones are safe y'know.”

2. “Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?”

What words did Jesus not use in the second question which He had used in the first question?

“ . ”

How did Peter answer Jesus? John 21:16,



“Yea thou that .”

Jesus again used the word which means “God's love.” Peter answered Jesus with the word which means “friendly love.”

What did Jesus ask Peter to do? John 21:16, “ .”

The New Life Testament says,

“ . . . *take care of my sheep.*”

Jesus asked Peter to look after the sheep. This was harder than feeding the lambs. In John chapter 10 Jesus said,

“I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep. . . I know My sheep and My sheep know Me.” John 10:11,14 (N.L.T.)

The shepherd led the sheep. He protected the sheep. He even laid down His own life for the sheep. Peter was to do the same kind of work. Peter needed “God's love” to do this kind of work.

Jesus wants us to take care of Christians. We need to have love from God to take care of Christians. We cannot do it with our own love. So often we get discouraged when we see Christians give up. We even get angry with them when they sin. When we have love from God we will treat them like Jesus treated His disciples, Colossians 3:12-14.

3. “Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?” John 21:17.

This time Jesus used the word “friendly love.” Peter was sad when Jesus asked for the third time, “Lovest thou me?” Had Jesus been sad when Peter had said the third time,

“I do not know Him”? Luke 22:60-62 .

How did Peter answer Jesus? John 21:17 “ *thou*

: *that I* *thee.”*

What did Jesus ask Peter to do? John 21:17 “ .”

MAKE A CHART OF THIS VISIT OF JESUS AND PETER.

Jesus asked	Peter answered	work given to do
1)		
2)		
3)		

4. The life and death of Peter.

READ John 21:18,19.

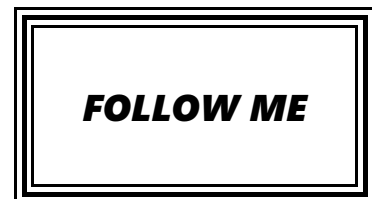
Jesus told Peter about his life and death. The New Life Testament says it this way:

“For sure, I tell you, when you were young, you put on your belt and went wherever you wanted to go. When you get old, you will put out your hands and someone else will put on your belt and take you away where you do not want to go.” He said this to tell Peter what kind of death he would die to honor God. After Jesus said this, He said to Peter, “Follow Me.”

Peter would go where he wanted to go for some time. In other words he would be able to work for Jesus. But when Peter would be an old man other people would put his belt on him. They would take him where he did not want to go. Peter would stretch out his hands. This showed he would be crucified. Peter lived till he was old. The early writers say that Peter was crucified with his head down. He honored God through his death. (Unger's Bible Dictionary by Merrill Unger. Copyright 1957, 61,66. Moody Press, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. Used by permission.)

5. Jesus said, “Follow Me.”

What did Jesus say to Peter and Andrew when He first called them? Matthew 4:19



“ *and I will make you of men.*”

What did Jesus say to Peter now? John 21:19 “ .”

Peter had denied Jesus. But Peter repented. Peter loved Jesus. Peter was forgiven. Once more Jesus asked Peter to follow Him.

John also followed Jesus. Peter saw John following. Again Peter was quick to speak. What did He ask? John 21:21

“*Lord, and do?*”

How did Jesus answer this question? John 21:22

“*If I will that he tarry till I come,* ,
 .”

The New Life Testament says it this way,

“*If I want this one to wait until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me.*”

Do the words,

“*If I want this one to wait until I come*” mean John

would not die? John 21:23 .

Some people thought John would not die. Jesus did **not** say “he will not die.” John lived to be a very old man. But he did die.

In other words Jesus said, “Peter, it is not important that you know what others are to do. It is important that **YOU** follow me.”

Jesus told Peter he was to do his own work. He was not to worry about others. Jesus tells us the same thing today.

Often we tell the children to wash the dishes. They quickly say, “Why doesn't Jim have to do them?” There are times when we do something for the church. Maybe someone else is not doing as much for the church. We get all upset.

What does Romans 14:12 tell us?



E. Closing words, John 21:24,25.

John knew that he had written the truth. He knew it was true because he saw it with his own eyes. The Holy Spirit guided John to write the truth about Jesus, John 14:26.

What did John say about the many things Jesus did?

All we can say is

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD.

JESUS IS OUR SAVIOR AND OUR LORD.

IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

1. Jesus showed Himself to the disciples, John 21:1 -
 - 1) this was at the Sea of _____, John 21:1.
 - 2) the following disciples were together: (John 21:2)
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
 - e. _____
 - f. g. Not named (two disciples)
 - 3) this was the _____ time after the resurrection that Jesus showed Himself to the disciples, John 21:11.¹⁴.
2. The disciples went _____, John 21:3.
 - 1) They fished all _____ and caught _____ fish, John 21:3.
 - 2) Jesus said, "Cast the net on the _____ of the boat." The disciples obeyed. John 21:6.
 - 3) This time they caught _____ fish, John 21:11.

- 4) The net (did) (did not) break, John 21:11.
3. Jesus had a fire made. There was _____ and _____
_____ laid on the fire, John 21:9.
 - 1) Jesus said, “_____ of the _____ you have now caught.” John 21:10.
 - 2) Jesus said, “_____ and _____,” John 21:12.
4. Jesus talked to Peter,
 - 1) Jesus asked Peter _____ times, _____ thou me?” John 21:15-17.
 - 2) Jesus used Peter's old name _____ son of Jonas, John 21:15-17.
 - 3) Jesus asked Peter to
 - a) feed His _____ John 21:15.
 - b) feed His _____ John 21:16,17.
 - 4) Jesus asked Peter to _____ Him, John 21:19.
5. _____ wrote the Gospel of John, John 21:24.

John wrote this Gospel so that we could believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing we might have life through His name.

Lesson 22 - Review

1. Who wanted to go fishing? _____ .
2. How many disciples went fishing? _____ .
3. How many fish did they catch during the night? _____ .
4. What sign (miracle) did Jesus do? _____ .
5. _____ was the first one to know it was Jesus on the shore.
6. _____ swam to shore to see Jesus.

7. Jesus had a _____ made on shore with _____ and _____ on it.
8. Jesus asked Peter _____ times, "Simon, son of Jonas, _____?"
9. Jesus asked Peter to
 - 1) feed His _____.
 - 2) feed His _____.
10. When Jesus first called Peter He said, "_____."
After the talk with Peter, Jesus said again, "_____."
11. Are all the things Jesus did written in the book of John? _____.
12. After we have studied the Gospel of John we can say, Jesus is the _____.

Jesus is our Savior and our _____.
13. Write out John 20:27,28.

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