

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.*

April 2016

## *John: Jesus is the Christ*

### **Lesson #24: Jesus Reinstates Peter**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Read again John's statement of purpose for writing his Gospel (20:30-31). We're finishing our study of what one commentator called *John, the Gospel of Belief*. As you think back over Jesus' ministry, what strikes you about how He called people to believe?

#### **OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION**

*[Note: This chapter is like an epilogue of sorts, because in chapter 20 John brought us to a full declaration of belief (20:28-29) and closed with his summary purpose statement. But this chapter echoes those themes and focuses on the theme of Christian service.*

*The disciples had returned to the Sea of Galilee after a trying and confusing week in Jerusalem: the triumphal entry; Jesus' most intense discipleship teaching; one of their number betraying Him; all of them forsaking their beloved Master; Jesus' bodily resurrection.]*

#### **Read John 21:1-5**

1. Jesus had told the disciples that He was sending them out (20:21), but they hadn't fully grasped what that meant. They went back to what they knew best, but the fulfillment was not there like it was before. How is that evident here? What do we learn from this?

#### **Read John 21:6-14**

2. This is Jesus' eighth sign (miracle) in John. What are His purposes in this sign?
3. John recognized the Lord, but it was Peter who went into action (vv 7, 11). What might he have been thinking or wondering at this point?
4. How do these words encapsulate this segment: "nothing," "large number," "come?"

#### **Read John 21:15-25**

5. Jesus forever removes the cloud of Peter's denial. Peter had disowned Jesus three times, and three times Jesus asked Peter if he loved Him. How was his love and loyalty to be demonstrated? What might Peter have been thinking? Jn 10:14-15
6. What does Jesus mean by His challenge to Peter? Why does he end with "Follow Me?"
7. Why might Peter have asked about John right away?
8. What is the crucial issue Jesus emphasized again? Why?
9. How have you matured in your faith/belief through this study of John's Gospel?

#### **APPLICATION**

How does Jesus want you to "Feed My sheep" at this point in your life?

*C.T. Studd (1860-1931) left behind a life of ease to lead the Cambridge Seven to China and later to India and Africa. An exceptional man of faith and vision, C.T. would say, "I'm part of the Big God party!" This same God-Man provided a large number of fish and invited His disciples to enjoy them with Him, with leftovers for others.*

*[See C.T.'s inspiring biography at [www.wholesomewords.org/biography/biorpstudd.html](http://www.wholesomewords.org/biography/biorpstudd.html)]*