



NEW TESTAMENT • LESSON 41

## JESUS AND ANOTHER MIRACULOUS CATCH OF FISH

*Those who belong to the Lord are sustained by Him.*



**MONDAY**

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### **THE STORY: JOHN 20:19-23**

The disciples went back to fishing. Apart from the early appearances by Jesus, the disciples had not seen the Lord for a while. They seem to be without purpose when Peter suggests they go fishing. He gives no good reason. A fisherman by trade, Peter would have likely enjoyed fishing. They fished all night but caught nothing. In the providence of God, this would set the stage for the miracle about to take place. Early in the morning, as they approached the shore, Jesus called to them. Jesus called them friends. Lest we overlook this greeting, we should take a moment to marvel. The Lord of glory is calling sinful men His friends. The disciples, however did not recognize Jesus. How often do we forget, in the midst of our difficulty, that the Lord is but a conversation away?

### **TALK ABOUT IT:**

Why didn't the disciples recognize Jesus? (We could blame the distance, or that they didn't recognize His voice. It is clear from the story, however, that they were not looking for Jesus. Had they been looking for Him, they would have recognized Him.)

How can we pursue Jesus today? (We pursue Christ through His Word and in our

prayers as we fellowship with the Spirit of Christ, who lives in the hearts of all believers [see Hebrews 12:1-3] ).

Do we ever forget Jesus and go about our lives not looking for Him or listening for His voice? (Yes, the cares and work of this world can capture our attention. In a short while we realize it might have been weeks since we devoted ourselves to the Word and prayer.)

**PRAY:**

Pray for God's grace to keep you ever seeking Jesus.



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**T U E S D A Y**

**THE STORY: JOHN 21:5-14**

Jesus revealed Himself again. Knowing the disciples had no clue He was the one speaking to them, Jesus revealed Himself in a humorous way. Surely they would know it was Him when they caught the fish. As soon as they drew in the net, they knew it was the Lord. Jesus demonstrated His authority over the fish and the net. A huge number of fish were caught, and the net did not break. Jesus was ready with bread and a fire to cook the fish. He ate with the disciples.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

Why do you think the Lord provided another miraculous catch of fish? (Jesus was building their growing faith.)

Why do you think it served the disciples for Jesus to eat breakfast with them like any other man? (Jesus had been dead. Earlier they thought He might be a ghost. By eating with them they would quickly relax in His presence. Jesus was not a spirit; he had a real body. Some falsely teach that Jesus rose again in spirit only, but clearly the Scriptures show a man with a body who was able to eat food with his friends.)

**PRAY:**

Ask God to build and grow your faith as you read and study about Him from the Bible.



**WEDNESDAY  
WHERE IS THE GOSPEL?**

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**THE STORY: JOHN 21:24,25**

When Jesus called Peter, James and John to follow Him, He demonstrated His power by a miraculous catch of fish (see Luke 5:1-11). Jesus demonstrated His power again to the disciples through a second miraculous catch of fish. John concluded his Gospel at the end of this story with a declaration that all he wrote was true regarding the ministry of Christ, the death of Christ, the resurrection of Christ, and even the appearing of Jesus on the shores of Galilee, where He cooked the disciples a breakfast of fish.

John 21:25 goes on to say that Jesus did many other things as well, so many that all the books in the world could not contain them! We can look forward to an eternity of days in heaven where we, who are saved by the death and resurrection of Jesus, can sit at His feet and hear them all!

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

Why is John's Gospel so believable? (John was an eyewitness and was writing what he saw with his very own eyes.)

What do we call it when we tell others our personal experience with Jesus? (We call our personal experience our testimony. People may doubt what we say about how others experience Jesus, but when we tell them our personal testimony and what Jesus has done for us, they can't easily refute what we say.)

What has Jesus done for you? (Don't pressure your kids for a salvation testimony; rather help them to see all that God has provided for them in general, and remind

them of the gift of the gospel. We want to walk the fine line between encouraging our children in their faith and producing false assurance based on our coached interactions.)

**PRAY:**

Pray that God would give you the courage to tell others about what Jesus has done in your life.




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**THURSDAY**

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**THE STORY: JOHN 21:15-23**

Jesus restores Peter. Three times Peter denied Jesus (see Matthew 26:69-75), and here Jesus asks him three times, “Do you love me?” Jesus appeared once before to Peter in Jerusalem (see Luke 24:34). We are not told what they talked about at that first meeting. Most commentators believe that this passage is Jesus’ restoration of Peter. In any case, Jesus is commissioning Peter to feed and take care of His sheep. Some believe the reference to Peter’s hands being stretched out is a prophetic word regarding Peter’s death. Tradition has it that he was crucified upside down.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

How did Peter demonstrate faith in Jesus with his third answer? (Peter appealed to Christ’s omniscience and said, “You know all things; you know that I love You.” Jesus didn’t disagree, for Peter did love the Lord.)

How can the way Jesus dealt with Peter give us hope in the midst of our struggles with indwelling sin? (Peter so completely denied the Lord that he even called down curses on himself in Mark 14:71. In spite of this, Jesus entrusted Peter with the care of His sheep. There is nothing more precious on earth than the Good Shepherd’s sheep. If Jesus can forgive Peter and entrust to him a measure of care for His most precious sheep, He can forgive us and use us as well.)

**PRAY:**

Thank Jesus for the forgiveness of sin and His willingness to use us to reach the lost.



**FRIDAY  
ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS**

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**THE STORY: ISAIAH 32:1-4**

Jesus is the King who will reign in righteousness. Jesus calmed the storm that blew in suddenly on the lake, and He is our refuge in time of trouble. Jesus opened the eyes of the blind and the ears of the deaf, and He also opened the minds of men so they could understand who He is.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

How does this Scripture apply to our relationship with Jesus today? (Jesus is still the one we call upon for physical healing and in times of trouble. Jesus is still opening the minds of men to understand and believe in Him.)

Has there ever been a king apart from Jesus who has reigned in righteousness? (Though many of Israel's kings did honorable things, they were all sinners. Even their good deeds were corrupted by their sinful motivations. Jesus is the only truly righteous king.)

**PRAY:**

Thank Jesus for becoming our Savior.