

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further ***International Bible Lessons***

John 21:1-14
Sunday, April 8, 2018
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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. What reasons might Jesus have had for telling His disciples to go to Galilee where He would meet them?

He wanted them to learn to keep obeying Him even though their situation with Him was now different. He wanted to protect them from the authorities who might seek them to

kill them. He wanted them to be in a safe and familiar place with their families as they began to cope with all that had happened in Jerusalem. He wanted them to have quiet times to discuss and remember what they had been told by Him during His ministry and what He had told the two who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus about the Scriptures needing to be fulfilled by Him. Other reasons?

2. Why do you think the disciples went fishing?

They needed to care for the needs of their families and themselves. Fishing was their occupation, and they were to keep doing all they knew to do until Jesus met them and called them to do something different (as He had done when they met Him the first time when they were fishing and He had called them to follow Him and learn how to fish for people).

3. What do you think the disciples learned from their fishing experiences with Jesus?

Without Jesus, they could not succeed at anything, even the jobs they knew best how to do. That Jesus would meet their needs when they obeyed Him.

4. How many times did Jesus appear to His disciples?

We do not know how many times Jesus appeared to His disciples over the forty days of His appearing. The Gospel

of John records three of the times Jesus appeared to His disciples.

5. What fish did Jesus use to feed His disciples?

Before they came ashore, Jesus had fish on a fire that He had created “out of nothing;” then, the fish that He told the disciples to bring to Him.

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