



# International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

## John 21:1-8 Study Hints for Discussion

[Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further](#) 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; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

### **1. What reasons might Jesus have had for telling His disciples to go to Galilee where He would meet them? See Mark 16:7.**

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. Who among the disciples seems to be a natural leader? Can you give one or more examples?**

Peter seemed to be a natural leader and Jesus enhanced his leadership skills. He was the one who suggested they go fishing. He was the one who jumped out of the boat to go see Jesus and the rest followed in the boat. He was the first one to declare Jesus was the Messiah. He was the first one to tell Jesus that he would die for Him. He was the first (and last) one to draw a sword to defend Jesus when He was arrested.

### **3. 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).

### **4. 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. Jesus would meet their needs when they obeyed Him.

### **5. How do you think John knew that it was the Lord?**

John knew immediately that only Jesus could tell them where to fish and then exceed their expectations when they obeyed Him and fish where He told them. He may have had better eyesight than Peter.

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Contact: P.O. Box 1052, Edmond, Oklahoma, 73083 and [lgp@theiblf.com](mailto:lgp@theiblf.com).