



## International Bible Lesson

International Bible Study Commentary

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### From Fear to Faith to Love

#### John 21:9-19

*Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord (John 21:12—KJV).*

*Jesus \*said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples ventured to question Him, "Who are You?" knowing that it was the Lord (John 21:12—NASB).*

*Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord (John 21:12—NRSV).*

After Jesus' resurrection, the first two times He appeared to His disciples they were hiding in a room behind locked doors, and He frightened or surprised them. The final time John recorded Jesus' appearance may surprise us. Before Jesus called His first disciples, He helped them catch fish. He had just finished speaking to the crowds from their boat, and He "paid" them by telling them where to fish. After they obeyed Him and let down their nets, they began bringing in so many fish that their nets began to break. Then, Peter exclaimed, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" (Luke 5:8). Instead, Jesus called Peter, James, and John to follow Him. After Jesus had taught His disciples for three years and had risen from the dead, Jesus could still help His disciples catch fish and keep their net from breaking. This time, after Jesus told them from the shore where to fish and John said, "It is the Lord," Peter jumped out of the boat and waded one hundred yards to shore to be with Jesus. He knew the depths of the love and forgiveness of Jesus. Beginning with nothing, Jesus could create a charcoal fire, cook fish, bake bread, and serve breakfast to His disciples. As the Word made flesh and

risen from the dead, Jesus could still make anything by simply speaking the word. In John 10:27, Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me," and that is why the disciples did not need to ask, "Who are you?"

### "Thinking Further

1. How many times did Jesus appear to His disciples?
2. What fish did Jesus use to feed His disciples?
3. What do these verses tell us about Christians who sin being given another opportunity to serve Jesus?
4. What did Jesus ask of Peter before He restored him as an apostle?
5. What type of love has Jesus shown for His people (His sheep)?

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