**Bible Study on Christian Discipleship**

**John 21:1-25**

**Background:** This Bible Study focuses us on an event in Jesus’ life after his resurrection when he visited his disciples along the Sea of Galilee. He used this visit to restore Peter and to call him to selfless sacrificial devotion to Jesus that would reveal itself in faithful apostolic ministry to Jesus’ lambs, that is; the Christian church.

**Read John 21:1-3 – Peter and Six Other Disciples Go Fishing**

 Why would Peter and his friends go fishing at this time in their lives?

 They didn’t catch anything all night. Of what significant event does this remind us? (See Luke 5)

 Why does Jesus sometimes make us “catch nothing” right before he blesses us tremendously?

 At Your Table: Tell about a time when God came through in a big way in your life.

**Read John 21:4-9 – Jesus Gives Great Fishing Advice**

 Why would throwing their net on the other side of the boat seem ludicrous to the fishermen?

How would this event take the disciples back (especially Peter) to when they were first called by Jesus at this lake?

With the fishing advice and the fish at the fire, what is Jesus telling the disciples? (more than one thing)

**Read John 21:10-14 – They Count the Fish and Eat Breakfast**

 Why would John tell us how many large fish they caught?

 Why would Jesus feed his disciples at this time and place?

 This is the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples. Find the other two appearances in John 20.

**Read John 21:15-19 – Jesus Recalls Peter into Apostleship.**

Why do you think Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved him? (There is more than one possible answer.)

 What did Jesus mean when he asked, “Do you love me more than these?” (Verse 15) (Three possibilities)

 What affect did Jesus’ triple question have on Peter?

 Peter’s love for Jesus was unquestionable both to Jesus and Peter. So, what was Jesus teaching Peter?

 What insight can we take from this conversation for us? We say that we love Jesus with all of our heart!

 Why do you think Jesus added how Peter would glorify God by dying against his choosing?

 Jesus is teaching us that following him is not about seeking a fantastic earthly life. Then what is it about?

**Read John 21:20-25 – Peter asks about John**

 What would make Peter ask about John at this time?

 What do you like about Jesus’ answer to Peter?

 How does Jesus’ answer help us learn what questions to avoid and what pursuits to follow?

 A.

 B.

John was 95 years old when he wrote his Gospel. Peter was already gone for a few decades. How do you think this factored into John’s writing?

Some might think that John was more blessed than Peter. How is this simply not true?

What big truth are you going to take from this story for your own discipleship as you follow Jesus?