

John 21

CG Discussion Guide // Week of 19 November 2023

INTRODUCTION

- Icebreaker: Do you have a favorite fish/seafood dish, and if so, what is it?
- Take some time to pray for one another's needs and requests (refer to Prayer Guide as needed)
- Pray for Harbor Network sister church: Sojourn Traverse City, Traverse City, MI (Pastor: Matt Herron)
- Choose discussion questions, prayer guide, or abide time questions depending on your group's needs

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Vv. 10-19

- John's account of this miraculous catch seems to parallel the account in Luke 5:1-11, and serve as bookends to Jesus' time with His disciples. What stands out to you from these two accounts?
- What do you make of Jesus taking the time to make breakfast for His disciples, post-resurrection? How do you think this highlights what we've seen from Jesus all throughout the gospel of John?
- Jesus gives Peter 3 chances to confess and affirm love and faithfulness, in contrast to Peter's 3 denials earlier. What can you glean from Jesus' example and call to Peter in each affirmation?
- Jesus gives a picture of Peter's future martyrdom, which will "glorify God." Knowing that Jesus has used words like "glory" and "lifted up" to describe His own death and humiliation, what does this teach us about Peter's connection/ "abiding" (and our own abiding) with Jesus?

Vv. 20-25

- Have you ever been tempted to compare your walk with Jesus to others? How does Jesus' rebuke in v. 22 correct our understanding?
- What are some lowlights and highlights in your following Jesus during our time with the gospel of John?
- In the spirit of v. 25, what has Jesus done for you lately that you're most thankful for?

Abide Time: Psalm 103

- What realities are you facing this week? What is occupying your thoughts? How do you feel?
- Read the passage and let God speak to you in you reality through his Word. Write down your reflections as God shepherds you:
 - What does the text say is true about God and his character?
 - What does it say about the world around you?
- How do your reflections above speak to your reality?
- What did you experience in your heart and soul as God spoke to you and your reality?
- What did you experience in your body, given your reflections and what you experienced in your heart and soul?
- How is God inviting you to live differently?
- What does all of what you shared above say about God and his relationship with you?

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

The Bible promises that anything we ask for in Jesus' name – that is according to His will – shall be granted to us (John 14:13-14). In view of this great promise, the prayer requests are all grounded in Scripture. When we pray Scripture, we can be certain that we are praying according to God's will.

That does not mean God will grant our requests in our preferred time or according to our frail wisdom; but it does mean that we can pray confidently knowing that God delights to answer these requests, for they are His words.

Use the accompanying Scripture verses to shape and inform your prayers.

PRAY FOR YOURSELF & YOUR FAMILY:

- That your daily life will bring honor to the name of Jesus – (2 Thess. 1:11-12)
- That you will cast all of your anxieties on God – (1 Peter 5:6-7)
- That you will consider your trials as an opportunity for joy – (James 1:2-4)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:

- That the power of Christ will rest on our church and ministries [Worship Gathering, Community Groups, Men/Women, Youth, Children, etc.] – (2 Cor. 12:9-10)
- That God will give us the wisdom and faith that we desperately need to continue in faithful mission – (James 1:5-8)
- That God will make us fruitful in ministry – (John 15:1-2) – and bold in witness – (Eph. 6:18-20)

PRAY FOR OUR CITY:

- That God will give wisdom to our government (local, state, and national) that we may lead peaceful, godly lives – (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- That the Lord will continue to provide open doors of gospel ministry in IU and the Bloomington community – (1 Corinthians 16:9)
- That the work of God will be displayed in the lives of the members of our sister churches – (John 9:3)

PRAY FOR OUR WORLD:

- That the persecuted church will find fellowship with Jesus as they share in his sufferings – (Philippians 3:10-11)
- That the Lord of the harvest will send out more workers to unreached people groups because they have been gripped by Paul's missionary logic in Romans 10:13-17 – (Matthew 9:37-38)
- That Christ will return bringing the fullness of salvation with him – (Revelation 22:20)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- November 29: Members' Meeting and final Spiritual Formation class of the semester
- December 3: Nine Lessons + Carols
- December 11-January 7: CG Christmas Break
- December 24: Christmas Eve
- December 25: Christmas!!!

Reminder: All events are listed in the Events tab in our Redeemer app. You can RSVP for specific events by going to the Events tab, clicking on an event, and following the link to register.