

# **Journey Through the New Testament**

## **John 17 – 21**

### ***Series: The Resurrection and the Life***

### ***“Breakfast on the Beach”***

**5-5-19**

#### ***Introduction***

This week’s reading took us to Jesus’ prayer for the disciples, his arrest, Peter’s denial, the crucifixion, and the empty tomb. The final two chapters of John then feature Jesus appearing in ways that are not found in the other gospels. When Jesus first invited Peter to follow him, Peter had been cleaning nets at the seashore. So, it’s not surprising after all that they had been through, Peter and a few others go back to Galilee to fish and, no doubt, to clear their minds. It’s just like Jesus to host a spontaneous and intimate gathering when the disciples perhaps needed it the most. But Jesus had more in mind than just breakfast on the beach. He and Peter had some unfinished business to attend before the next leg of their journey could fold.

#### ***Opening Prayer***

O Lord, you gave your life that we might have life and have it to the full. From foot washing to fixing breakfast, you demonstrated servant love and leadership. Give us grace and strength to follow you and to trust your forgiveness when we fail. Amen.

#### ***Bible Study John 21:1-14 (CEB)***

##### ***What?***

1. After the resurrection, Jesus appeared to Mary and the other disciples several times in Jerusalem. Describe what’s going on and where the scene took place in verses 1-4.
2. What was Peter’s response when he realized it was Jesus on the shore? (v. 11)
3. From the shore, Jesus asked the fishermen to do three things. What were they? (v. 6, 10, 12)
4. Then, what did Jesus do for them? (v. 13)

##### ***So What?***

1. So, in this little scene so far, what would have felt familiar to the disciples?

2. In light of all that had happened in Jerusalem, how would you characterize the nature of this surprise gathering with Jesus on the beach in Galilee?

### ***Jesus and Peter John 21:15-19***

#### ***What?***

1. Breakfast was over. Seated around the little fire where Jesus had grilled fish and bread for them, Jesus asked Peter the same question three times. (v. 15-17) How might this have changed the tone of the gathering for Peter? Why?
2. Having literally fed the disciples, what was Jesus asking Peter to do? (v. 19)
3. Jesus said to Peter, "Follow me." (v. 19) Why would this phrase have meant the world to Peter at that moment?  
(Refer to Matthew 4:19)
4. Why was it important for Jesus to have this conversation with Peter at this point in time? Refer to Matthew 16:18 and Acts 1:9.

#### ***So What?***

1. So, what does this encounter tell us about Jesus and his relationship with Peter?
2. So, what conclusions can we make about forgiveness when we have failed to follow Christ?
3. So, what were Peter and the others supposed to do next?

#### ***Now What?***

1. Now that we too have encountered the risen Christ, what are we to do?
2. What are we to do when we face Christ after failing?
3. How does the scene on the beach portray the theme of this series: "The Resurrection and the Life?"

#### ***Closing Reflection***

*I Praise You for this Resurrection Madness*

*Lord of such amazing surprises as put a catch in my breath and wings on my heart, for this mercy that blots out my betrayals and bids me begin again, to limp on to hop-skip-and-jump-on, to mend what is broken in and around me, and to forgive the breakers; for this resurrection madness which is wiser than I and in which I see how great you are, how full of grace. Alleluia! (Ted Loder, Guerrillas of Grace)*