

BIBLE STUDY: LESSON 35

Scripture of Lesson: John 21: 1~25

1. Seaside meeting in Galilee

- a. How many times did the risen Lord appear to His disciples?
 - I Cor 15: 5~7: “and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve, and that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.”—There must have been a convention of all believers with the Lord in Galilee.
- b. Perhaps the disciples wanted to catch fishes so as to prepare for this large gathering. They did not forsake the Lord.
 - Multitude of fishes caught when the disciples obeyed the Lord’s command reminded them of the first time when they met Him and responded to His call to discipleship. → Same command, obedience, miraculous results.
- c. Breakfast cooking by the Lord plus fishes caught by the disciples provided a humble breakfast for all, followed by a meeting with the resurrected Lord.
 - Let us enjoy meeting with fellow Christians and the risen Lord. Are we “independent” Christians or “fellowshipping” Christians?

2. Restoration of Peter

- a. Peter came back and joined other disciples. Yet there lacked a sense of mission. The Lord had to present the mission to Peter and the eleven —“*Feed My sheep.*”
 - Christianity was born out of the commitment of these 11 humble disciples. The Lord told them they would be led by the Holy Spirit in their mission work. [v. 18]
 - An important trait of Christian ministry —total dependence on the Lord for guidance and provision.
- b. The Lord asked Peter three times, “*Do you love me?*”
 - After a failure we need a time with the Lord to confirm our love and commitment for Him.
 - Let us share our personal experiences similar to Peter’s.

3. Apostle John’s testimony

- a. Much of Jesus’ works and sayings are left out of the gospel books. The Holy Spirit brings them to us to enlighten/ shine the Scriptures before us and to teach us with particulars pertinent to our individual lives and situations.
- b. Seeming inconsistencies of the four gospels —Why such differences?
 - Gospels were written by different disciples as they saw and perceived of what Christ did and said.
 - If the gospel was a hoax, the writers would have gathered and constructed a well-organized single set so as to present a uniform story. Jesus’ disciples did not do so. This points to the genuineness and truthfulness of the gospel story.