



Welcome to Bible Study with Rise!!

This week we will be reading from John 21:1-7 as we discuss GOING DEEPER!

Background:

So, prior to John 21:1, Jesus was being crucified to death. He was hung and beaten on a cross for our sins and transgression. He bore sins though He, Himself was without. After Jesus was crucified he was buried. Luckily for us, He did not stay there! He rose, He resurrected!! *1 Peter 2:21-24*

When Jesus resurrected he first appeared to Mary of Magdalene and told her to tell His disciples.

Now, prior to the disciples knowing that Jesus resurrected, Jesus first told them everything that was going to happen. However, they did not understand the magnitude of what Jesus informed them. After His death, the disciples were overwhelmed with solemn, sadness, fear, and even dealt with isolation. Their Savior they knew and believed in was GONE! Dead and in their eyes their hope was lost!

SO often do we have an idea or even a glimpse of an expected end, but somehow, we've allowed a roadblock to weaken us and detour us from the path that was already laid out before us. – the disciples did!

- 1. Can you name a time where you knew an expected end but based on the circumstances that was before you, you couldn't see your way out or even an inclination of possibilities that are in front of you? Share about it!*

Turning Point:

The Turning Point for the Disciples was when Jesus resurrected and told Mary to tell the them. They were overwhelmed with joy, excitement and some were even in disbelief! When Jesus revealed Himself, He endowed them with the Holy Spirit and gave them authority. *John 20:22-23*

Jesus revealed Himself to the Disciples on several occasions, all in which were very impactful and powerful. Which leads us to John 21:1.

Right before the final encounter, the Disciples were working tirelessly. They were *digging deep* and was determined to catch some fish. But they were unsuccessful!

Rise Ministry

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It seemed as if their efforts, their work, their persistence, to dig deep and get to the bottom, of the sea, to could catch some fish they were unsuccessful!

The Disciples were trained Fishermen! Prior to their very first encounter with Jesus (*Matthew 4:18-19*) they were doing what they were skilled at, and now it seems as if their time living with the Lord trumped their status and ability of knowing how to do the only thing that they were once GREAT at!

2. Have you ever experienced a time when you've put in all your efforts, your digging all your sowing and your time, just to get a voided return? This is how the Disciple felt after long hours of fishing and working in their expertise!

Share your experience!

As the break of day approached Jesus was getting ready to manifest Himself to the disciples. He revealed Himself to them yet another time. But this time in a miraculous fashion. Jesus stood by the shore of the sea – the very area, the very place that proposed a challenge to the disciples!

At times it seems as if the very thing we're passionate about is the very thing that causes us to sway, get frustrated and even want to give up... It's frustrating trying to work in the area you are called in but no results are yielding in your favor, but keep digging!

But Keep Digging!

It was their persistence to keep on digging, to keep on fishing that caused Jesus to stand by the shore of the sea! It was the break of Morning when Jesus appeared by the shore of sea and instructed them on what to do next!

Pause! Think about it!

As Jesus Stood by the shore of the Sea, He was examining they very thing that caused the disciples trouble. He was developing a plan for them and commanded an abundance of fish to yield in their favor. At times all Jesus needs to do is to see our efforts, to see our struggles, to see where our sweat is. And He'll meet us, not half way, but all the way to the finish-line of abundance! But He requires something us!

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Let's Look and See!!

"Cast your net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some."

These are the instructions Jesus gave the disciples. And these are the lessons we can take from the disciples as we are digging deep!

1. Be persistent and Go Deep

It's through the persistence and perseverance of the disciples that allowed Jesus to answer the call of their cry. However before we are even aware that our cry has been answered, but must continue to push past barriers and go deep!

There will be plenty of times when your persistence and your perseverance may seem to go unnoticed, but you must continue to Go Deep and fight for what it is that Jesus has either instructed your or promised you!

2. Listen and Follow

When Jesus told the disciples what to do, they could have complained and cried out 'Lord, we've been here all night – we are experts and found nothing, what makes you think we will be lucky this time?'

- But they didn't they listened and were obedient. They listened to the instructions of the Lord and followed exactly as they were told.

3. Get ready you have the Capacity!

As the disciples were persistent and digging deep in the works of the Lord, they were then able to hear the mandate and instructions that proceeded from The Lord God. As a result, they listen, followed, and walked into an abundance of overflow.

apart of getting ready is ensuring that you have the capacity to be able to bare and walk with the amount of overflow that will be poured out over your life.

As you dig deep, wells of living water will literally pour out! in this chapter it says the they could not pull the fish out of the sea because it was too many! Something that seemed dead, empty and lacking was overflowing with an abundance of fish! 153 to be exact wow! And their net was still intact!

God will do just that!! He will literally watch you plow away, sow, dig and pour your all into His fish. He will even watch you as you terry at what seem like is dead and rendering no results. But as you are working and digging deep, God is aligning your borders with exactly what you need to produce a level of overflow! So much that you will have full capacity to sustain everything that He is pouring and entrusting you with!

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