

## I AM GOING FISHING

(John 21)

Peter decided to go back to the old life of fishing. Perhaps he had forgotten the call to be a fisher of men in the beginning of Jesus' ministry, when Peter met Him in the early days after he had toiled all night without catching anything in his net. Interesting to notice is that this experience in Luke five is identical to the one in John at the end of Jesus' ministry on earth, when He appeared to the disciples for the third time in Galilee, as He said He would.

Peter and six of the disciples could not wait for Jesus so they went out to fish. Back in to his former way of life, Peter thought that that was it for him. Jesus was gone, and with Him, His teachings. Peter's relationship with Jesus had been broken when he denied Him and now he had one thing to do: fishing. His old way of life would put him back in his routine and soon all would be forgotten. Although Peter was in Galilee, he was not doing the thing he was suppose to be doing, to wait for Jesus. The result of that decision was obvious in that he "caught nothing".

However in the dawn of that day Jesus stood on the shore of the Sea of Galilee and told them to change the direction of throwing the net. In other words, change the direction in which you are going for you to be blessed! When the net was so full that they couldn't haul it in, someone said to Peter, "It is the Lord"! They finally recognized Him!

In their obedience to Jesus, the blessing came to their net of one hundred and fifty-three large fish. Why this number? Maybe because this number meaning fruit-bearing, was pointing to the future of the disciples when their lives would be bearing fruit for God through the message of salvation to many who would be saved.

While they worked out to bring the fish to land, breakfast had been prepared for them. When they had come to land they saw a fire of coals and fish lying on it and bread. An invitation was extended to them, **Come and have breakfast.** After a night of hard work, such invitation was very welcomed to the disciples, although

not realizing the spiritual application opened to them of seeking God first, for their needs to be met. After breakfast, Peter is challenged with a question by Jesus, Do you love Me more than these? He asked him not only one time, but the number of times Peter had denied Him, which was three times. In each time Jesus gave a command, Feed My sheep, and tend to My sheep. Two times the question was asked it didn't seem to have an impact on him, only on the third time, when he grieved. In that grievance, there was repentance and Peter's answer was, I love You enough to die for You. With a broken heart before the Lord, Peter was reinstated in his position of service to God with dedication and boldness, with enduring faith unto death for Christ.

The Lord still asks the question, do you love Me more than your family, your earthly goods, and friends? Do you love Me more than do you love yourself, do you? Would you stop for a moment from the worries of jobs and everything else to have breakfast with me? Everything is ready.

Don't go fishing friend, without first eating breakfast with the Master.

Think about it!

Jacinta, for Light from the Word.