



SDG Discussion Guide

John 21:1-8; Philippians 3:7-14

July 1, 2018

For starters:

What has happened in your life that could be described as a miracle?

What is the sweetest reunion you have ever had with family or friends?

What skill do you have that you are confident about?

Interaction with the text: (The following questions are meant to provide points of further interaction with the respective sermon text. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find these questions in print on that Sunday.)

As you can, read aloud the passages in your group. Provided you can, read them aloud a second time but from a different Bible translation (eg, read from the ESV after first reading from the NIV). Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together, what points and questions arose? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these. What else did you notice? Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions for interaction.

John 21:1-8

1. The seven disciples have returned to the Galilee district, about 90 miles from the place Jesus was killed and rose again. What might they have discussed on the way?
2. In fishing all night, using nets, do you think Peter just wanted something to do, or did he return to his old business?
3. Why did Peter jump into the lake?
4. Why did Jesus' disciples have difficulty recognizing him after the Resurrection?

Philippians 3:7-14

5. What does "confidence in the flesh" mean: Good looks? Positive reputation? Education?
6. According to Paul, what is the secret to success?
7. Paul desired to know Christ better. How about your desire now for the same?
8. Where do you go to get away from it all? How does God meet you there?
9. When was the last time you received a bountiful blessing? On a level of 1 (low) to 10 (high), what is the excitement level in your spiritual life right now?
10. Do you need to walk away from something in your past keeping you from becoming new in Christ?

Spend some time in prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to draw near to you anew in this prayer time. Pause, wait and expect his presence. Ask God to continue to speak to you from his word in these passages. Ask him for his peace and courage. Go forth in expectation of God's firm assurance that as you step out in faith... you shall have his encouragement.

*These questions were adapted from The Serendipity Bible for Groups (Zondervan, 1998).