

AfterWords
Backward or Forward
John 21:1-14
May 8, 2022

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to equip you to do the next right thing. If you are leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out the questions that will stir up conversation and action around your group.

KEY POINT

Seven disciples deciding to go fishing. Jesus had called them out of casting nets for fish and sent them to be fishers of men. Not knowing what to do after the resurrection of Jesus, they went back to their old lives. It was safer and more comfortable doing what they knew. There will be times when we are tempted to go back to our old lives. Will you go backward or forward into God's call on your life?

LAUNCH IT

- When you are stressed, overwhelmed, or confused what's the safe or comfortable thing you do?
- Does it help? How?
- Do you tend to go toward what is comfortable or risky? Why?

EXPLORE IT

- Read **John 21:1-14**
 - Read the passage out loud. Pick a couple of different translations.
 - We are reading the Bible to learn to hear the voice of God.
- What jumped out at you about the passage? Words, names, people, location, verbs?
 - Why do you think the disciples went fishing in the first place?
 - Why do you think Jesus showed up after an unsuccessful night of fishing?
- Read **John 21:1-14** in one or two different translations. Have someone re-tell this story in their own words.
 - What do these verses say about God?
 - What do these verses say about people?
 - What do these verses say about obedience?

APPLY IT

- Re-read **John 21:1-14** one more time.
- Have someone else re-tell this passage in their own words.
- In light of what we now know about this passage, what is God calling you to **do** this week?
 - Make it specific and be ready to share what you did next time.
- Who is the Holy Spirit prompting me to share these verses with?
 - Make it specific and be ready to share what you did next time.

PRACTICE IT

- Now what?
 - Where is God sending you?