

life lessons that will nourish your soul

Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. <sup>6</sup> He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.<sup>7</sup> Then the disciple whom Jesus loved (John), said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. <sup>8</sup> The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.



<sup>9</sup>When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." <sup>11</sup> Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.



<sup>15</sup> When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup> Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." <sup>17</sup> The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep.



I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." <sup>19</sup> Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"



<sup>20</sup> Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is going to betray you?") <sup>21</sup> When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."



## John Chapter 20:30,31

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



"Even if all of the rest fall away on account of you, I never will. I am ready to go with you to prison or even to Matthew 26:33 death."

<sup>69</sup> Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said.<sup>70</sup> But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said. <sup>71</sup> Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth." 72 He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the Matthew 26:69-72 man!"

<sup>73</sup> After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away." <sup>74</sup> Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!" Matthew 26:73,74

<sup>9</sup>When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.



Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire. Mark 14:54

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?"



This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"-and I am the worst of them all. 1Timothy 1:15

"To my dismay, early in the week the headmaster got up and said, "And if any of you young students want to personally counsel with Reverend Lucas and go and talk to him about personal issues or spiritual issues and all that, you can have a personal conference, and you'll be able to get out of class."



## "To put it mildly, I have always found children to be a trial."



After one day of hour after hour listening to kids, especially, because it was a lot of 12- to 14-year-old girls talking about a particular boy in a class and saying over and over again, *"And he doesn't even know I exist,"* 





I thought, "Oh my word," and I just wanted to say, "You little twit. You're going to forget about him in six months. This isn't the end of the world. What's the matter with you?" I am trying so hard to be compassionate and having so much trouble being compassionate. "O Lord, why can't you bring me somebody I can go to see a play with or go to a pub with? Why am I listening to these people?"



After one particularly frustrating time, where he was getting very upset with himself and with the situation, he turned to the Bible for strength. He turned to John 21, and he read, "Feed my lambs." He said it just knocked him flat.





"Feeding a lamb, you get nothing out of it. I realized what we're being called to do here. "Feed my lambs" means "Love and care and serve people from whom relating gives you no intellectual, emotional, psychological, or social benefit at all."



"How could you have that kind of shepherd heart? How could you be that patient a kind of person? How would you like to become the kind of person who's so filled in your own self, so un-needy, that you're that tender and kind, you have that kind of shepherd's heart?"



"I realized what Jesus was saying to Peter, what Jesus was saying to me, and what Jesus is saying to us, is it'll only happen when you understand yourself to be a moral failure plunged into the grace of Jesus Christ.



When you are reconciled to the reality of your own weakness, then you can deal with weakness in others.

I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." <sup>19</sup> Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"



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