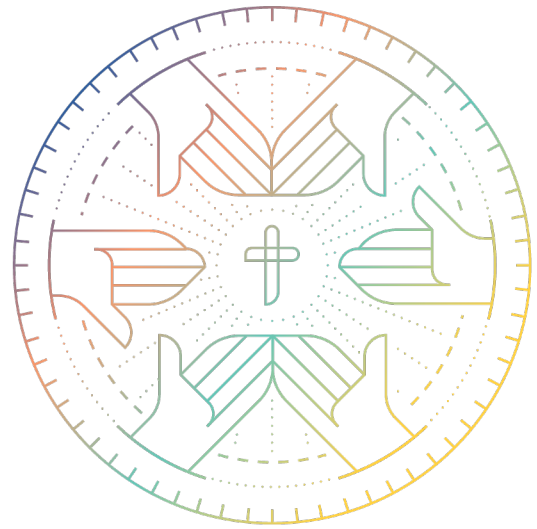


# Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Gone Fishing: “Jesus Restores Us”  
Scripture Focus: John 21

## ICEBREAKER

If your comfort “boat” had a nickname, what would it be?

OR

Can you think of a time when you felt empty or were worn out, but Jesus met you on the “shore”?

## INTRODUCTION

In John 21, the disciples return to something familiar—fishing. After all they had experienced, uncertainty sets in, and Peter leads the way back to what he knows. But despite their skill and experience, they catch nothing. It’s in that emptiness that Jesus meets them again. This chapter reminds us that while Easter shows us what Jesus has done, John 21 shows us what Jesus is still doing—restoring, redirecting, and calling us back to a life of purpose in Him.

## INTO THE WORD

**Read John 21:1–5, Luke 5:4–6, and John 15:5.** In what ways can our skills, experiences, and talents hinder our ability to be fruitful in God’s Kingdom? What does it look like to truly “abide” in Jesus rather than rely on your own strength?

**Read John 18:17–18, 25–27, John 21:9–12, and Psalm 51:10–12.** Why do you think Jesus recreates this moment around a charcoal fire? What does this reveal about how Jesus restores us after failure?

**Read John 21:6–8 and John 14:21.** Where in your life might Jesus be inviting you to trust Him through a step of obedience right now—and what makes that difficult? How does Jesus’ teaching in John 14:21 reshape the way you view obedience—not as obligation, but as a response of love—and what could that look like for you this week?

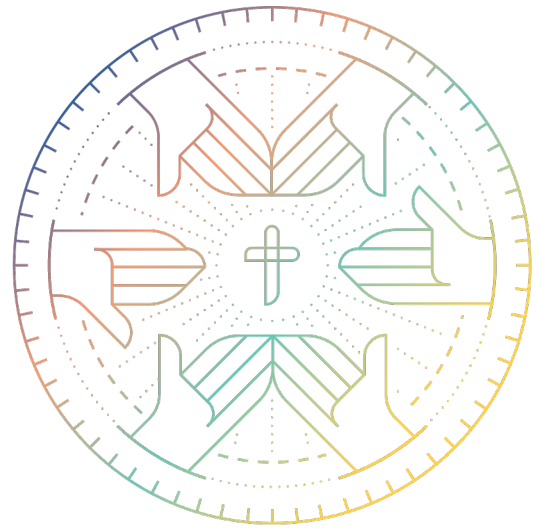
## EMBRACE AND EMBODY

John 21 reminds us that Jesus is not finished with us. When we return to what is familiar but empty, He meets us there. When we fail, He restores us. When we feel directionless, He calls us back to purpose. The resurrection proves that Jesus has victory over sin and death. John 21 shows us that He is still actively restoring His people. Because of Him, empty nets can be filled, failure can be redeemed, and our

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lives can be anchored in something greater than ourselves. Jesus is not waiting for you to fix yourself—He is inviting you back to Himself.

## Reflection Questions:

- Where are you tempted to return to what feels familiar or comfortable instead of stepping into what Jesus is calling you into—and what would it look like to trust Him with a step of obedience this week?
- In light of how Jesus restores Peter and calls him forward, how might God be inviting you to move beyond past failure or self-reliance and re-engage His purpose for your life right now?

## TAKE YOUR NEXT RIGHT STEP

*(Prayerfully consider one of the following next steps)*

- **Seek God Daily:** Read John 21 daily this week and ask God to show you an area where you need to trust Him. Then, commit to taking that step.
- **Build Deep Relationships:** Ask a trusted friend how you can pray for them this week. Then commit to praying and later encourage them by checking in.
- **Make God Known:** If you encounter a person who shares a difficult situation with you, take time to listen, engage in the conversation, and then ask if they would like you to pray for them right then. If appropriate, share with them how God has helped you through a difficult circumstance or season.

## CLOSING PRAYER

*Jesus, thank You that when we get off track, are distracted, or feel like we have lost our purpose, You still call us to You. We ask You to provide healing, redemption, and restoration to the areas we need it. And let Your Holy Spirit convict us and cultivate in us the humility we need to receive Your grace through faith, and respond with obedience out of love for You. In Your name, Amen!*