

## *Simon's Fish Story Discussion*

*Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.*

*Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was present at John the Baptist's announcement "Behold the Lamb of God." Is that surprising?*

*Do "ordinary people" often seek God more sincerely than the elite?*

*Is it surprising that Jesus "spent the day" with Andrew?*

*We have sometimes been challenged to "leave our nets and follow Jesus" as if this was the first contact the fisherman had with him. How does the correct chronology change our interpretation?*

*How does "diligently seeking Him" relate to the grace of God in our spiritual journey?*

*Is it natural to share truth you have found with family and friends?*

*Why do we sometimes neglect doing so?*

*Is it reasonable that the fishermen may have had doubts about Jesus from the reports of his poor reception in some places?*

*How would you have felt if you had been on the receiving end of Jesus command to cast out the nets for a catch? How about after pulling in the nets?*

*John, in his Gospel, sounds like a philosopher. John 1:1-5 "In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him." Is it believable that he would have been thoughtful as a young man?*

*Think about how the Holy Spirit gives gifts as He wills and that natural gifts are also from God. Are you aware of situations where God has made His purpose for the gifts plain to us?*

*What unique contributions did John make, to the Kingdom and the church?*

*Compare John's ministry with Simon Peter's ministry and the preparation each underwent for it.*

*Why was it not John but Peter who gave the evangelistic sermon at Pentecost?*

*Why was Peter chosen to be the early leader of the church?*

*Were some who followed Jesus there for less than pure spiritual motives?*

*Was there any way that the disciples could have failed to believe that demons were real and needed to be dealt with in a spiritual manner?*

*Why do some today believe that demons might have been an ignorant explanation for mental illness?*

*Why did Jesus often command those healed of illness or delivered of demons to not tell what happened?*