



# Small Group Discussion

## **Steve Scheibner – Commander in U.S. Navy Reserve, First Officer for American Airlines, Pastor & President of Characterhealth Corp. A Some-day Saint or A Borrowed-time Believer**

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**Discussion Starter** If any in your group did not see the video, or the group would like to review it before the discussion you can view it together at YouTube.com. Do a search for “In My Seat.”

*How did the events on 9/11 affect your life, schedule, family or work?*

### **READ: John 21:1-14**

A Some-day saint is the believer who says “I’m going to get around to it someday.” The Borrowed-time believer invests in every moment as if it were a gift. Some-day saints may recognize that there is a better use of their lives, but are not ready to take the risks to go there. A someday saint values comfort and safety until a life-shattering event happens like a 9/11/2001 that reveals that our lives are on borrowed time and that we really can make a difference.

There are three questions to help move you from a safe and insignificant life to a life that makes a difference in God’s Kingdom.

### **WHAT ARE YOU DOING? Or WHY ARE YOU HERE?**

From the context of John 21:1-4, why did the disciples go back to fishing for fish?

*The group John tells us about here has just lost their Rabbi & Messiah to the cross, they had left Jesus at some point during His trials, Peter had denied even knowing Him. They were discouraged, doubting and defeated. Not only had they lost their friend and Messiah, but they had all seen their weaknesses. They went back to the one thing they knew they were good at. They went back to the safe life, the life of a fisherman.*

What are the “safe” roads for your life, the areas that keep you safe, free from risk?

### **WHAT ARE YOU FISHING FOR?**

**READ 21:5-7** After their best effort of fishing all night, how successful were the disciples? (21:5)

What did Jesus tell them to do & how did it turn out? (21:6)

In Luke 5 Jesus told the disciples to follow him and he would make them fishers of men. Let’s assume that the disciples were good fishermen, and based on the description in the Gospels of their lifestyles, they made a good living from it. If Christ set up their lack of success in fishing all night in John 21, and the miracle of catching 153 fish by fishing off the other side of the boat, what some conclusions from them catching so many fish when they followed Christ’s command?

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*God had made them for more than fishing for fish. Fishing fish wasn't going to satisfy them any more. Following Christ would be an unpredictable, risky and fulfilling life.*

When Peter experienced Christ's power, was he still interested in the fish? 21:7-8

## **DO YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN THESE?**

While Peter had denied Jesus 3 times before the cross, now Christ re-calls him 3 times for each of his denials. To move us from our safe lives to the borrowed-time lifestyle Jesus calls us to decide between the things we have loved to the relationship with Christ.

What are the things that you love that keep your life safe, but also keep you from following Christ with your whole heart?

When Jesus challenges Peter's love for Him, Peter tells him that he does love Him more than any other thing. What does Christ call him to do? 21:15, 16b & 17b. *Feed my sheep!*

What do you think Christ would have you do in your next step of following Him?