

## Today is the day to stop asking and start knowing and get moving

**Text:** John 21:12



Hi everybody,

I have just recently been invited to be the guest speaker at our annual week of prayer at our Christian school situated about one hour's drive from Stockholm and am presently drawing the week's meetings to a conclusion. Please pray that God will move the hearts of the young people to surrender their lives to God.

The theme has been "***A biblical Perspective on Life***". With so many different and conflicting world views out there I feel it is important that we boldly present the biblical worldview presented in the bible.

I believe that due to the fact that most people often have a closed mind to the church they have never really given the bible any serious thought. However, I am convinced that the bible not only can help answer life's foundational questions – questions about meaning and purpose – but more importantly it has a dynamic way of enriching our lives when we take note of its message and apply its teachings to our lives. This brings me to this week's encouraging words taken from the Gospel of John 21:12. I have entitled the message stop asking and start knowing and get moving.

*Do you ever find yourself wanting to ask a question when in reality you already know the answer? While* if you have then you are not alone. Our text today helps us to put things in the right perspective by teaching us a foundational truth. As you might recall Jesus had already appeared to His disciples several times since His resurrection. But the disciples were still waiting for direction on how to go forward. So in the meantime some of them decided to go fishing, their previous occupation before they followed Jesus. On this particular morning, as they were returning from their fishing expedition empty handed, they looked up from their boat and saw a Man cooking breakfast on the shore.

At first we are told that they were so preoccupied with what they were doing that they actually failed to recognize the man on the shore but when he told them to throw their net on the right-hand side of the boat they finally woke up. They no longer needed to ask who it was; they knew it was Jesus. I wonder if that moment somehow reminded the disciples of their last fishing trip (Luke 5:4-7). We are told that Peter actually jumped out of the boat to make his way towards Jesus. He did not have to ask *Who* was waiting on him; he just knew.

I have found that there are times in our Christian lives when we look back at those things we used to do. In fact there are times when some of us may even question whether we should just give up and *go fishing again*. Maybe we keep going back to our old ways and habits, even though we know we should have gotten out of that boat a long time ago. Just think about it: If Peter and John had not stopped fishing and had stayed with their boat, what all would they have missed? They left it the first time Jesus asked them when He said, "***Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men***" (Matthew 4:19). Now, they are leaving their boat

for the final time, never to return to their old lives again. In fact from this moment on, they would literally live and die for the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Maybe today we too need a wakeup call, a reminder that we too need to look up from our boat. Let's get personal: How far are you from the shore? The point is that you are never too far away from Jesus. The Bible makes it very clear that If you look for Him, you will also find Him. When you see that Person who seems familiar, you really do not need to ask who it is. The point is Jesus is always with you, wanting to feed and comfort you. Maybe He is asking you to get out of the boat and come towards Him. Maybe He wants to make you "fishers of men." Is it a "maybe" or a "definitely"? I think we all know the answer to that question too. Today is the day to stop asking and start knowing and get moving.

God bless

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