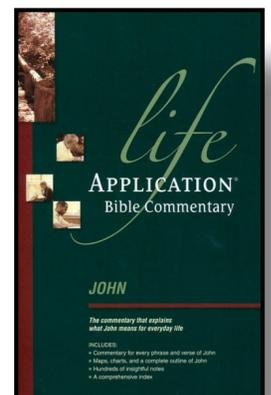


# John Chapter 21

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: <sup>2</sup> Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. <sup>3</sup> "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

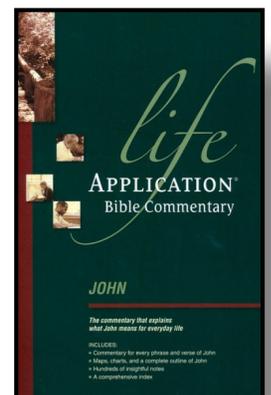
Prior to his resurrection, the Lord had told his disciples that he would meet them at an appointed place in Galilee after he arose (Matt.28:10 ;MK 14:28). But due to the disciples' unbelief and fear, they had remained in Jerusalem. Consider what the disciples had experienced over the last few weeks: the Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem of their beloved Jesus and their high hopes for high places in Christ kingdom;

*-Life Application Commentary: John page 402*



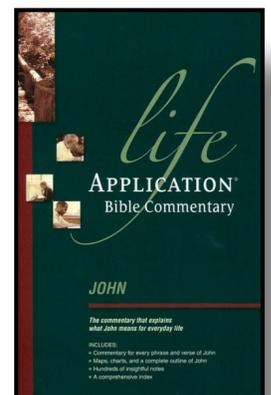
a supper with Jesus that proved to be his last - a supper filled with mysterious actions and words, and the sudden departure of a trusted friend, one of their own; surprise in the garden by several hundred men with torches and weapons who had come to arrest everyone, and the disciples had turned tail and run; Jesus going with the authorities without a fight; Peter, their leader, denying three times that he was a disciple of Jesus;

*-Life Application Commentary: John page 402*



Jesus, their supposed leader and King, crucified on a cross like a common criminal, then buried in a borrowed tomb; then an incredible resurrection with Jesus appearing to them and saying more mysterious words. What were they supposed to do now? They did as they were told and returned to Galilee. But as they waited there, they remained unsure, confused. ***So they did what they knew how to do best - they went fishing.***

*-Life Application Commentary: John page 402*





**Mediterranean  
Sea**

**Sea of Galilee**

**Jordan River**

**Jerusalem**

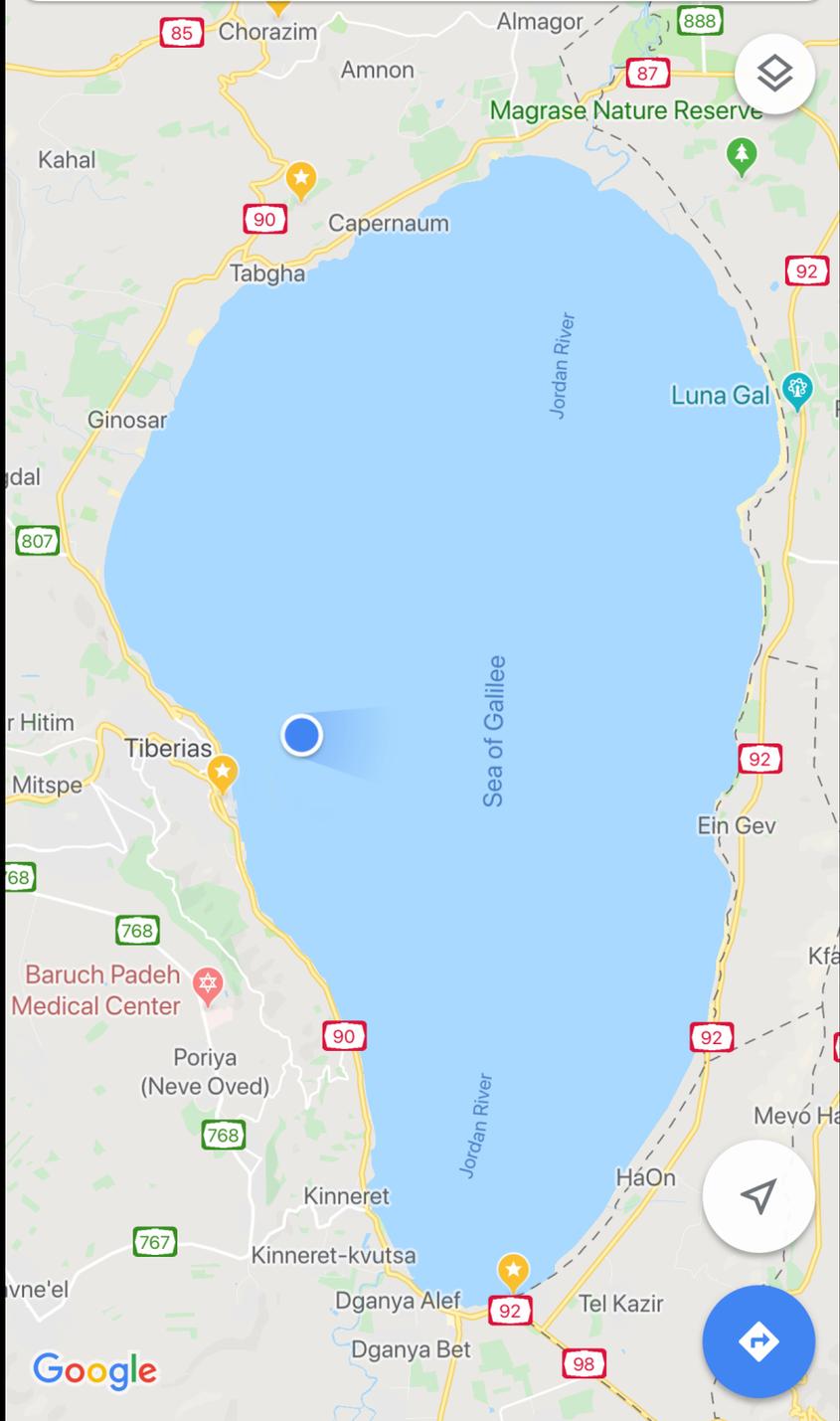
**Dead Sea**



**Capernaum**

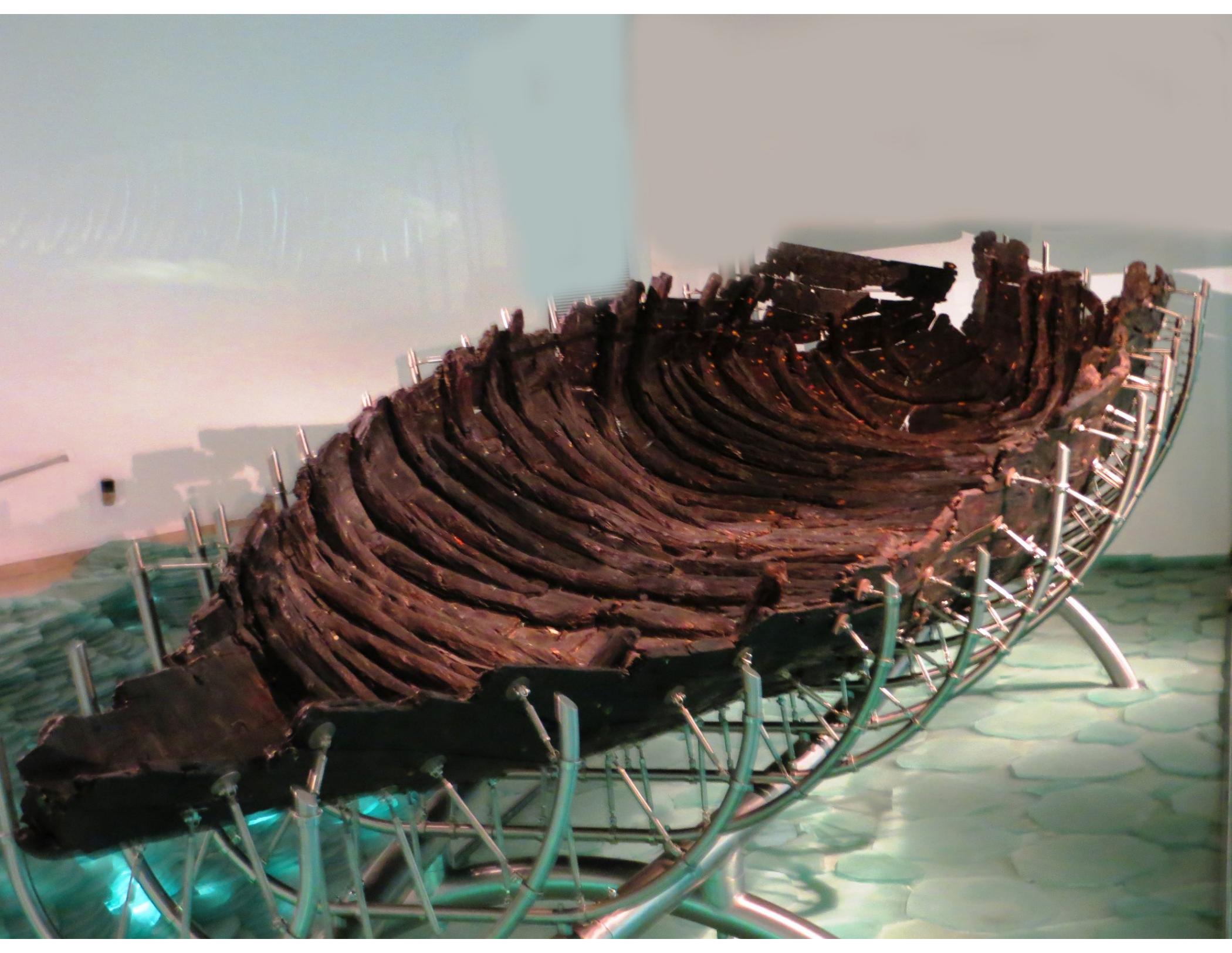


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<sup>4</sup> Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. <sup>6</sup> He said, "Throw your net on the 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 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> So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat 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 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 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. <sup>18</sup> Very truly I tell you, 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.” <sup>23</sup> Because of this, the rumor spread among the believers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?”

<sup>24</sup> This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true. <sup>25</sup> Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.



# Restored to Serve

# Restored to Serve

John 21:15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

# Restored to Serve

*From the beginning of creation, God's purpose for humanity was to represent Him and his rule in a way that honored Him. Even after sin enters into the world - God's good purpose for humans never changes.*

# Restored to Serve

*Genesis 12 gives us a clear picture of God's desire for humans to represent Him. God reveals Himself to Abraham and tells him he is going to have a unique relationship with him and will be blessed by Him. God tells Abraham that this gift is not just for Abraham to enjoy but so that he can pass this gift along to others!*

# Restored to Serve

*Likewise Jesus gifted Peter with a unique relationship and opportunity. Even when Peter seems to ruin it, Jesus offers Peter restoration. With the restoration Jesus reminds Peter of the continued purpose to bless & serve others!*

# Restored to Serve

*God offers you and I restoration as well! Just like Abraham and Peter God has a unique role for you to serve and bless others!*



# A Common Obstacle



# A Common Obstacle

John 21:21-22 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.

# A Common Obstacle

*God gave you a unique set of gifts and circle of influence. He has a mission for you! Comparing ourselves to others, what they have, what they have accomplished, how they look can easily compromise your focus on **who God made you to be** and the mission He has for you!*

# A Common Obstacle

Galatians 6:4 Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, ***without comparing themselves to someone else.***



**Come Follow**  

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**Keep Following**

# **Come Follow**

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# **Keep Following**

*Back to the Sea of Galilee where Jesus first invited this group of fisherman to follow him. He reminds them that the original invitation is also the path into the future: “follow me”*

# Come Follow Keep Following

***"Follow me" (Jn 21:19&21)***

ἀκολουθέω ἐγώ  
akoloutheō egō

# **Come Follow**

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# **Keep Following**

***“Follow me” (Jn 21:19&21)***

ἀκολουθέω ἐγώ  
akoloutheō egō

***present tense imperative***

**meaning: “keep on following”**

**"Follow me!"**

same lake, Jesus

words to Peter

is not a start.

faith. Jesus is

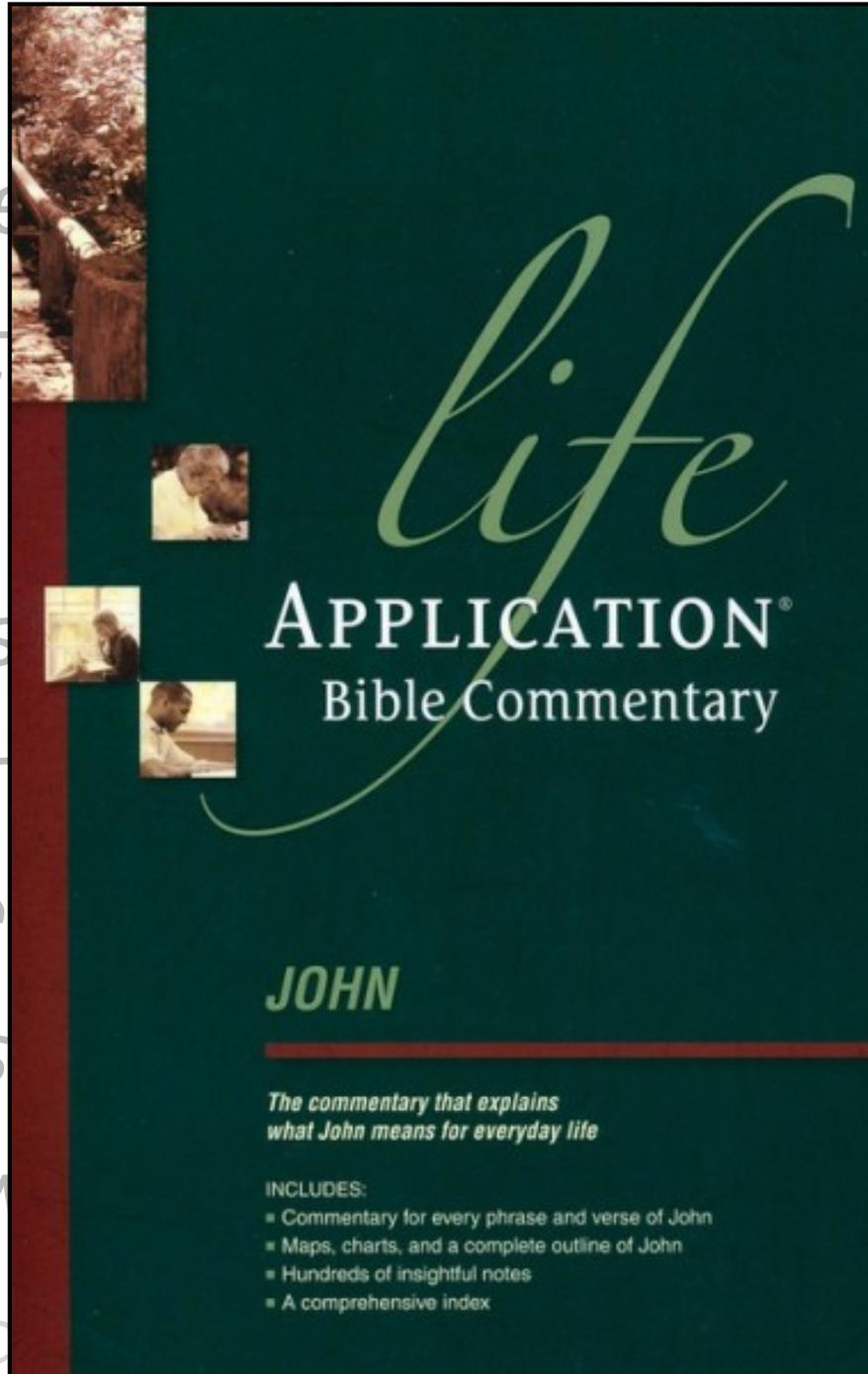
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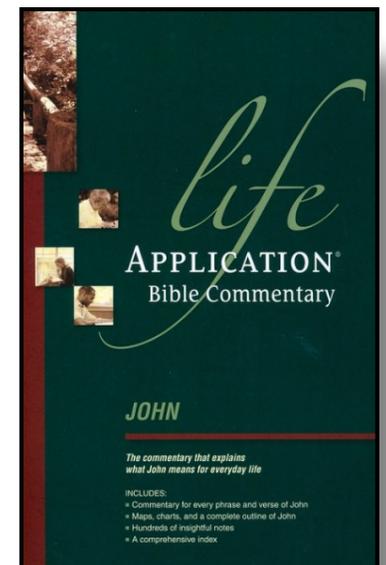
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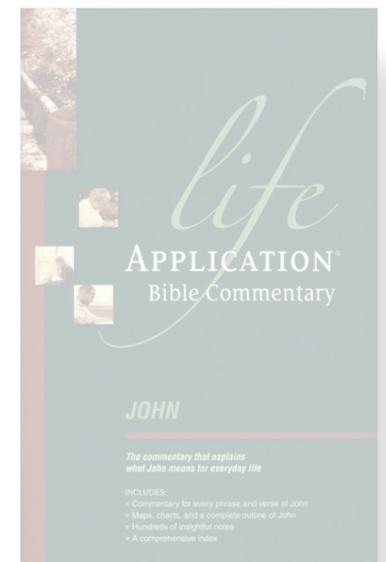
***“Follow me!” Three years earlier, along the same lake, Jesus had said the same words to Peter ‘follow me’. Following Jesus is not a start. Rather it is a lifelong walk of faith. Jesus’ constant invitation reminds us not to think as often about where we are or where we’re going but rather to think continually about how well we are following him right now.***

***-Life Application Commentary: John page 408***



**“Follow me!”** Three years earlier, along the same lake, Jesus had said the same words to Peter ‘follow me’. **Following Jesus is not a start. Rather it is a lifelong walk of faith.** Jesus’ constant invitation reminds us not to think as often about where we are or where we're going but rather to think constantly about how well we are following him right now.

-Life Application Commentary: John page 408





*the book of*  
**ACTS**

*The account of the growth of the Church*