

- Song 115 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

### TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- “Jehovah’s Endearing Qualities”: (10 min.)



34:5-7

Appreciation for Jehovah’s qualities helped Moses to deal patiently with the Israelites. Similarly, if we deepen our understanding of Jehovah’s qualities, we can deal mercifully with fellow believers.

- “Merciful and compassionate”: Jehovah looks after his worshippers with tender love and deep concern, just as parents look after their children
- “Slow to anger”: Jehovah is patient with his servants, putting up with their shortcomings and giving them time to make changes
- “Abundant in loyal love”: Jehovah forges an unending bond of loyal love with his people

ASK YOURSELF, ‘How can I imitate Jehovah’s mercy and compassion?’

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**Ex 34:5—Knowing God’s name means knowing his purposes, activities, and qualities (it-2 466-467)**

**(Exodus 34:5) Then Jehovah came down in the cloud and stationed himself with him there and declared the name of Jehovah.**

\*\*\* it-2 pp. 466-467 Name \*\*\*

The material creation testifies to God’s existence, but it does not reveal God’s name. (Ps 19:1; Ro 1:20) For an individual to know God’s name signifies more than a mere acquaintance with the word. (2Ch 6:33) It means actually knowing the Person—his purposes, activities, and qualities as revealed in his Word. (Compare 1Ki 8:41-43; 9:3, 7; Ne 9:10.) This is illustrated in the case of Moses, a man whom Jehovah ‘knew by name,’ that is, knew intimately. (Ex 33:12) Moses was privileged to see a manifestation of Jehovah’s glory and also to ‘hear the name of Jehovah declared.’ (Ex 34:5) That declaration was not simply the repetition of the name Jehovah but was a statement about God’s attributes and activities. “Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness and truth, preserving loving-kindness for thousands, pardoning error and transgression and sin, but by no means will he give exemption from punishment, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons and upon grandsons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation.” (Ex 34:6, 7) Similarly, the song of Moses, containing the words “for I shall declare the name of Jehovah,” recounts God’s dealings with Israel and describes his personality.—De 32:3-44.

- (Psalm 19:1) The heavens are declaring the glory of God; The skies above proclaim the work of his hands.
- (Romans 1:20) For his invisible qualities are clearly seen from the world’s creation onward, because they are perceived by the things made, even his

eternal power and Godship, so that they are inexcusable.

- (2 Chronicles 6:33) may you then listen from the heavens, your dwelling place, and do all that the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as your people Israel do, and may know that your name has been called on this house that I have built.
- (1 Kings 8:41-43) "Also concerning the foreigner who is not part of your people Israel and who comes from a distant land because of your name 42 (for they will hear about your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm), and he comes and prays toward this house, 43 may you then listen from the heavens, your dwelling place, and do all that the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as your people Israel do, and may know that your name has been called on this house that I have built.
- (1 Kings 9:3) Jehovah said to him: "I have heard your prayer and your request for favor that you made before me. I have sanctified this house that you built by permanently putting my name there, and my eyes and my heart will always be there.
- (1 Kings 9:7) I will cut Israel off from the surface of the land that I have given to them, and the house that I have sanctified for my name I will cast out of my sight, and Israel will become an object of scorn and a cause for ridicule among all the peoples.
- (Nehemiah 9:10) Then you performed signs and miracles against Phar'ao and all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted presumptuously against them. You

made a name for yourself that remains to this day.

- (Exodus 33:12) Now Moses said to Jehovah: "See, you are saying to me, 'Lead this people up,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Moreover, you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my eyes.'
- (Exodus 34:5) Then Jehovah came down in the cloud and stationed himself with him there and declared the name of Jehovah.
- (Exodus 34:6, 7) Jehovah was passing before him and declaring: "Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and abundant in loyal love and truth, 7 showing loyal love to thousands, pardoning error and transgression and sin, but he will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons and upon grandsons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation."
- (Deuteronomy 32:3-44) For I will declare the name of Jehovah. Tell about the greatness of our God! 4 The Rock, perfect is his activity, For all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness who is never unjust; Righteous and upright is he. 5 They are the ones who have acted corruptly. They are not his children, the defect is their own. They are a crooked and twisted generation! 6 Is this the way that you should treat Jehovah, O foolish and unwise people? Is he not your Father who caused your existence, The One who made you and firmly established you? 7 Remember the days of old; Consider the years of past generations. Ask your father, and he can tell you; Your elders, and they will inform

you. 8 When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, When he divided the sons of Adam from one another, He fixed the boundary of the peoples With regard for the number of the sons of Israel. 9 For Jehovah's people are his portion; Jacob is his inheritance. 10 He found him in a wilderness land And in an empty, howling desert. He protectively encircled him, took care of him, And safeguarded him as the pupil of his eye. 11 Just as an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its fledglings, Spreading out its wings, taking them, Carrying them on its pinions, 12 Jehovah alone kept leading him; No foreign god was with him. 13 He made him ride upon earth's high places, So that he ate the produce of the field. He nourished him with honey from the crag And oil out of a flinty rock, 14 Butter of the herd and milk of the flock, Together with the choicest sheep, And rams of Ba'shan, and he-goats, Together with the finest wheat; And you drank wine from the blood of grapes. 15 When Jesh'u-run grew fat, he kicked out rebelliously. You have grown fat, you have become stout, you have become bloated. So he forsook God, who made him, And despised the Rock of his salvation. 16 They incited him to fury with foreign gods; They were offending him with detestable things. 17 They were sacrificing to demons, not to God, To gods that they had not known, New ones that came along recently, To gods that your forefathers did not know. 18 You forgot the Rock who fathered you, And you did not remember the God who gave birth to you. 19 When Jehovah saw it, he rejected them Because his sons and his daughters offended him. 20 So he said, 'I will hide my face from them; I will see what will become of them. For they are a perverse generation, Sons in whom there is no faithfulness. 21 They have

incited me to fury with what is not a god; They have offended me with their worthless idols. So I will incite them to jealousy with what is not a people; I will offend them with a foolish nation. 22 For my anger has kindled a fire That will burn to the depths of the Grave, And it will consume the earth and its produce And will set ablaze the foundations of mountains. 23 I will increase their calamities; I will use up my arrows on them. 24 They will be exhausted from hunger And eaten up by burning fever and bitter destruction. I will send the teeth of beasts against them And the venom of reptiles of the dust. 25 Outside, a sword will bereave them; Inside, there is terror For both young man and virgin, Infant together with gray-haired man. 26 I would have said: "I will scatter them; I will make the memory of them cease from among men," 27 If not for my dread of the enemy's reaction, Because the adversaries might misconstrue it. They might say: "Our power has triumphed; It was not Jehovah who did all of this." 28 For they are a nation devoid of sense, And there is no understanding among them. 29 If only they were wise! They would ponder over this. They would think about their outcome. 30 How could one chase after 1,000, And two put 10,000 to flight? Not unless their Rock had sold them And Jehovah had surrendered them. 31 For their rock is not like our Rock, Even our enemies have understood this. 32 For their vine is from the vine of Sod'om And from the terraces of Go-mor'rah. Their grapes are grapes of poison, Their clusters are bitter. 33 Their wine is the venom of serpents, The cruel poison of cobras. 34 Is this not stored up with me, Sealed up in my storehouse? 35 Vengeance is mine, and retribution, At the appointed time when their foot slips, For the day of their disaster is near, And what awaits

them will come quickly.’ 36 For Jehovah will judge his people, And he will feel pity for his servants When he sees that their strength has waned, And that only the helpless and weak remain. 37 Then he will say, ‘Where are their gods, The rock in whom they sought refuge, 38 Who used to eat the fat of their sacrifices, To drink the wine of their drink offerings? Let them rise up and help you. Let them become your place of refuge. 39 See now that I—I am he, And there are no gods apart from me. I put to death, and I make alive. I wound, and I will heal, And no one can rescue from my hand. 40 For I raise my hand to heaven, And I swear: “As surely as I live forever,” 41 If I sharpen my flashing sword And prepare my hand for judgment, I will pay back vengeance on my adversaries And bring retribution to those who hate me. 42 I will make my arrows drunk with blood, And my sword will eat flesh, With the blood of the slain and the captives, With the heads of the leaders of the enemy.’ 43 Be glad, you nations, with his people, For he will avenge the blood of his servants, And he will repay vengeance to his adversaries And will make atonement for the land of his people.” 44 Thus Moses came and recited all the words of this song in the hearing of the people, he and Ho·she’a the son of Nun.

**Ex 34:6—Jehovah’s qualities draw us to him (w09 5/1 18 ¶3-5)**

**(Exodus 34:6) Jehovah was passing before him and declaring: “Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and abundant in loyal love and truth,**

\*\*\* w09 5/1 p. 18 pars. 3-5 When Jehovah Described Himself \*\*\*

The first thing Jehovah reveals about himself is that he is “a God merciful and gracious.”

(Verse 6) According to one scholar, the Hebrew word rendered “merciful” bespeaks God’s “tender compassion, like that of a father to his children.” The word rendered “gracious” is related to a verb that “depicts a heartfelt response by someone who has something to give to one who has a need.” Clearly, Jehovah wants us to know that he looks after his worshippers as parents look after their children—with tender love and deep concern for their needs.—Psalm 103:8, 13.

Next, Jehovah says that he is “slow to anger.” (Verse 6) He is not prone to become angry with his earthly servants. Rather, he is patient with them, putting up with their shortcomings while giving them time to change their sinful ways.—2 Peter 3:9.

God continues, saying he is “abundant in loving-kindness and truth.” (Verse 6) Loving-kindness, or loyal love, is a precious quality by which Jehovah forges between himself and his people a bond that is steadfast, unailing. (Deuteronomy 7:9) Jehovah is also a wellspring of truth. He can neither deceive nor be deceived. Since he is “the God of truth,” we can have complete faith in everything he says, including his promises for the future.—Psalm 31:5.

- (Exodus 34:6) Jehovah was passing before him and declaring: “Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and abundant in loyal love and truth,
- (Psalm 103:8) Jehovah is merciful and compassionate, Slow to anger and abundant in loyal love.
- (Psalm 103:13) As a father shows mercy to his sons, Jehovah has shown mercy to those who fear him.
- (Exodus 34:6) Jehovah was passing before him and declaring: “Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and abundant in loyal love and truth,

- (2 Peter 3:9) Jehovah is not slow concerning his promise, as some people consider slowness, but he is patient with you because he does not desire anyone to be destroyed but desires all to attain to repentance.
- (Exodus 34:6) Jehovah was passing before him and declaring: "Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and abundant in loyal love and truth,
- (Deuteronomy 7:9) You well know that Jehovah your God is the true God, the faithful God, keeping his covenant and loyal love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.
- (Psalm 31:5) Into your hand I entrust my spirit. You have redeemed me, O Jehovah, the God of truth.

**Ex 34:7—Jehovah forgives repentant sinners  
(w09 5/1 18 ¶6)**

**(Exodus 34:7) showing loyal love to thousands, pardoning error and transgression and sin, but he will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons and upon grandsons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation."**

\*\*\* w09 5/1 p. 18 par. 6 When Jehovah Described Himself \*\*\*

Another great truth that Jehovah wants us to know about himself is that he pardons "error and transgression and sin." (Verse 7) He is "ready to forgive" repentant sinners. (Psalm 86:5) At the same time, Jehovah never condones badness. He explains that "by no means will he give exemption from punishment." (Verse 7) The holy and just God will not leave willful sinners unpunished.

Sooner or later the consequences of their sinful behavior will catch up with them.

- (Exodus 34:7) showing loyal love to thousands, pardoning error and transgression and sin, but he will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons and upon grandsons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation."
- (Psalm 86:5) For you, O Jehovah, are good and ready to forgive; You abound in loyal love for all those who call on you.
- (Exodus 34:7) showing loyal love to thousands, pardoning error and transgression and sin, but he will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons and upon grandsons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation."

**Digging for Spiritual Gems:**

**Ex 33:11, 20—How did God speak to Moses "face-to-face"? (w04 3/15 27 ¶5)**

**(Exodus 33:11) Jehovah spoke to Moses face-to-face, just as one man would speak to another man. When he returned to the camp, Joshua the son of Nun, his minister and attendant, would not depart from the tent.**

**(Exodus 33:20) But he added: "You cannot see my face, for no man can see me and live."**

\*\*\* w04 3/15 p. 27 par. 5 Highlights From the Book of Exodus \*\*\*

33:11, 20—How did God speak to Moses "face to face"? This expression denotes intimate two-way conversation. Moses talked with God's representative and orally received instruction from Jehovah through

him. But Moses did not see Jehovah, since 'no man can see God and yet live.' In fact, Jehovah did not personally speak to Moses. The Law "was transmitted through angels by the hand of a mediator," states Galatians 3:19.

- (Exodus 33:11) Jehovah spoke to Moses face-to-face, just as one man would speak to another man. When he returned to the camp, Joshua the son of Nun, his minister and attendant, would not depart from the tent.
- (Exodus 33:20) But he added: "You cannot see my face, for no man can see me and live."
- (Galatians 3:19) Why, then, the Law? It was added to make transgressions manifest, until the offspring should arrive to whom the promise had been made; and it was transmitted through angels by the hand of a mediator.

**Ex 34:23, 24—Why did Israelite men need faith to attend the three annual festivals? (w98 9/1 20 ¶5)**

**(Exodus 34:23, 24) "Three times a year, all your men are to appear before the true Lord, Jehovah, the God of Israel. 24 For I will drive the nations away from before you, and I will enlarge your territory, and nobody will desire your land while you are going up to see the face of Jehovah your God three times a year."**

\*\*\* w98 9/1 p. 20 Be Sure to Put First Things First! \*\*\*

Three times a year every male Israelite and proselyte in the land was commanded to appear before Jehovah. Realizing that the entire family would benefit spiritually from such occasions, many family heads arranged for

their wife and children to accompany them. But who would protect their homes and their fields from enemy attack while the family was away? Jehovah promised: "Nobody will desire your land while you are going up to see the face of Jehovah your God three times in the year." (Exodus 34:24) It took faith for the Israelites to believe that if they put spiritual interests first, they would not lose out materially. Did Jehovah prove true to his word? He certainly did!

- (Exodus 34:24) 24 For I will drive the nations away from before you, and I will enlarge your territory, and nobody will desire your land while you are going up to see the face of Jehovah your God three times a year.

**What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share regarding Jehovah God, the field ministry, or something else?**



**Bible Reading: ) (4 min. or less) • Ex 33:1-16  
(th study 10)**

(Exodus 33:1-16) 33 Jehovah said further to Moses: "Go on your way from here with the people whom you led up out of the land of Egypt. Journey to the land about which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your offspring I will give it.' 2 I will send an angel ahead of you and drive out the Ca'naan-ites, the Am'or-ites, the Hit'tites, the Per'iz-zites, the Hi'vites, and the Jeb'u-sites. 3 Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey. But I will not go in the midst of you, for you are an obstinate people, and I might exterminate you on the way." 4 When the people heard this harsh word, they began to mourn, and not one of them put on his ornaments. 5 Jehovah said to Moses: "Say to the Israelites, 'You are an obstinate people. In one moment I could go through the midst of you and exterminate you. So now keep your ornaments off while I consider what to do to you.'" 6 So from Mount Hor'eb onward, the Israelites refrained from wearing their ornaments. 7 Now Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, at some distance from the camp, and he called it a tent of meeting. Everyone inquiring of Jehovah would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. 8 As soon as Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise and stand at the entrance of their own tents, and they would gaze after Moses until he entered into the tent. 9 As soon as Moses would go into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stand at the entrance of the tent while God spoke with Moses. 10 When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, each of them rose and bowed down at the entrance of his own tent. 11 Jehovah spoke to Moses face-to-face, just as one man would speak to another man. When he returned to the camp, Joshua the son of Nun, his minister and attendant, would not depart from the tent. 12 Now Moses said to Jehovah: "See, you are saying to me, 'Lead this people up,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Moreover, you have said, 'I know you by

name, and you have also found favor in my eyes.' 13 Please, if I have found favor in your eyes, make me know your ways, so that I may know you and continue to find favor in your eyes. Consider, too, that this nation is your people." 14 So he said: "I myself will go with you, and I will give you rest." 15 Then Moses said to him: "If you yourself are not going along, do not lead us up from here. 16 How will it be known that I have found favor in your eyes, I and your people? Is it not by your going along with us, so that I and your people will be distinguished from every other people on the face of the earth?"

**APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD  
MINISTRY**

**• Return Visit Video: (5 min.) Discussion.**  
**Play the video, and then ask the audience: How did Brandi make the scripture application clear? How did she stimulate the thinking of the householder?**

How did Brandi make the scripture application clear?

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How did she stimulate the thinking of the householder?

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• **Return Visit: (3 min. or less) Begin with the sample conversation. Overcome a common objection. (th study 16)**

○● RETURN VISIT

Question: Is the Bible compatible with science?

Scripture: Job 26:7

Link: Is the Bible's advice practical?

FIND THIS SCRIPTURE IN THE TEACHING TOOLBOX:

• bhs 21 ¶8

(Job 26:7) 7 He stretches out the northern sky over empty space, Suspending the earth upon nothing;

• **Return Visit: (5 min. or less) Begin with the sample conversation. Introduce the Teach Us book, and start a Bible study in chapter 2. (th study 8)**

○● RETURN VISIT

Question: Is the Bible compatible with science?

Scripture: Job 26:7

Link: Is the Bible's advice practical?

FIND THIS SCRIPTURE IN THE TEACHING TOOLBOX:

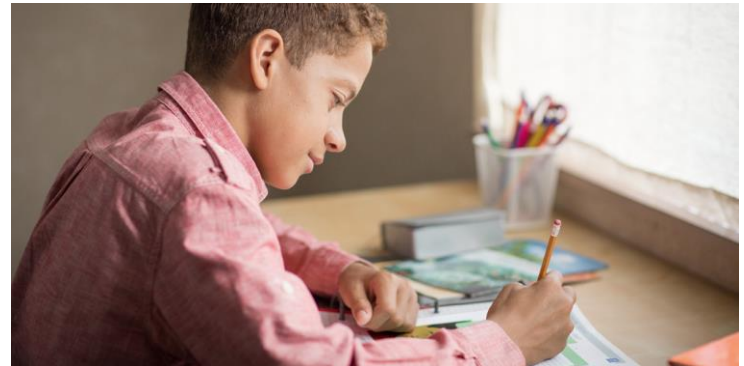
• bhs 21 ¶8

(Job 26:7) 7 He stretches out the northern sky over empty space, Suspending the earth upon nothing;

## LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

Song 80

• **“Young Ones—Is Jehovah Your Best Friend?”: (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video Youths—“Taste and See That Jehovah Is Good.”**



What qualities do you look for in a friend? You probably value loyalty, kindness, and generosity. Jehovah displays them all. (Ex 34:6; Ac 14:17) He listens when you pray to him. He gives you a helping hand whenever you need it. (Ps 18:19, 35) He forgives your mistakes. (1Jo 1:9) What a wonderful Friend Jehovah is!

How can you be a friend to Jehovah? Learn about him by reading his Word. Confide in him. (Ps 62:8; 142:2) Show that you value things that are important to Jehovah, such as his Son, his Kingdom, and his promises for the future. Tell others about him. (De 32:3) If you cultivate a close friendship with Jehovah, he will be your Friend forever.—Ps 73:25, 26, 28.

- (Exodus 34:6) Jehovah was passing before him and declaring: “Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and abundant in loyal love and truth,
- (Acts 14:17) although he did not leave himself without witness in that he did good, giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying you with food and filling your hearts with gladness.”



- (Psalm 18:19) He brought me out into a place of safety; He rescued me because he was pleased with me.
- (Psalm 18:35) You give me your shield of salvation, Your right hand supports me, And your humility makes me great.
- (1 John 1:9) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous so as to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- (Psalm 62:8) Trust in him at all times, O people. Pour out your hearts before him. God is a refuge for us. (Selah)
- (Psalm 142:2) Before him I pour out my concern; Before him I tell about my distress
- (Deuteronomy 32:3) For I will declare the name of Jehovah. Tell about the greatness of our God!
- (Psalm 73:25, 26) Whom do I have in the heavens? And besides you I desire nothing on earth. 26 My body and my heart may fail, But God is the rock of my heart and my portion forever.
- (Psalm 73:28) But as for me, drawing near to God is good for me. I have made the Sovereign Lord Jehovah my refuge, To declare all your works.

WATCH THE VIDEO YOUTHS—“TASTE AND SEE THAT JEHOVAH IS GOOD,” AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:



- How can you prepare for dedication and baptism?

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- How can others in the congregation help you to serve Jehovah?

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- How does the ministry strengthen your relationship with Jehovah?

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**Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)**

**Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)**

CHAPTER 136

On the Shore of the Sea of Galilee

(John 21:1-25) After this Jesus manifested himself again to the disciples, at the Sea of Ti-be'ri-as. He made the manifestation in this way. 2 There were together Simon Peter, Thomas (who was called the Twin), Na-than'a-el from Ca'na of Gal'i-lee, the sons of Zeb'e-dee, and two others of his disciples. 3 Simon Peter said to them: "I am going fishing." They said to him: "We are coming with you." They went out and got aboard the boat, but during that night they caught nothing. 4 However, just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. 5 Then Jesus said to them: "Children, you do not have anything to eat, do you?" They answered: "No!" 6 He said to them: "Cast the net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." So they cast it, but they were not able to haul it in because of the large number of fish. 7 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter: "It is the Lord!" Now Simon Peter, on hearing that it was the Lord, put on his outer garment, for he was naked, and plunged into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the small boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not a long way from land, only about 300 feet away. 9 When they came ashore, they saw there a charcoal fire with fish lying on it and bread. 10 Jesus said to them: "Bring some of the fish you just now caught." 11 So Simon Peter went on board and hauled the net ashore full of big fish, 153 of them. And though there were so many, the net did not burst. 12 Jesus said to them: "Come, have your breakfast." Not one of the disciples had the courage to ask him: "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. 14 This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after being raised up from the

- What avenues of service are available to you?

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- What do you appreciate about Jehovah?

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dead. 15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter: "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He replied to him: "Yes, Lord, you know I have affection for you." He said to him: "Feed my lambs." 16 Again he said to him a second time: "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He replied: "Yes, Lord, you know I have affection for you." He said to him: "Shepherd my little sheep." 17 He said to him a third time: "Simon son of John, do you have affection for me?" Peter became grieved that he asked him the third time: "Do you have affection for me?" So he said to him: "Lord, you are aware of all things; you know that I have affection for you." Jesus said to him: "Feed my little sheep. 18 Most truly I say to you, when you were younger, you used to clothe yourself and walk about where you wanted. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another man will clothe you and carry you where you do not wish." 19 He said this to indicate by what sort of death he would glorify God. After he said this, he said to him: "Continue following me." 20 Peter turned around and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, the one who at the evening meal had also leaned back on his chest and said: "Lord, who is the one betraying you?" 21 So when he caught sight of him, Peter said to Jesus: "Lord, what about this man?" 22 Jesus said to him: "If it is my will for him to remain until I come, of what concern is that to you? You continue following me." 23 So the saying went out among the brothers that this disciple would not die. However, Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but he said: "If it is my will for him to remain until I come, of what concern is that to you?" 24 This is the disciple who gives this witness about these things and who wrote these things, and we know that his witness is true. 25 There are also, in fact, many other things that Jesus did, which if ever they were written in full detail, I suppose the world itself could not contain the scrolls written.

## Paragraph 1 on Page 308

(Matthew 26:32) But after I have been raised up, I will go ahead of you into Gal'i-lee."

(Matthew 28:7) Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he was raised up from the dead, for look! he is going ahead of you into Gal'i-lee. You will see him there. Look! I have told you."

(Matthew 28:10) Then Jesus said to them: "Have no fear! Go, report to my brothers so that they may go to Gal'i-lee, and there they will see me."

## Paragraph 2 on Page 308

(John 21:3) Simon Peter said to them: "I am going fishing." They said to him: "We are coming with you." They went out and got aboard the boat, but during that night they caught nothing.

(John 21:5, 6) Then Jesus said to them: "Children, you do not have anything to eat, do you?" They answered: "No!" 6 He said to them: "Cast the net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." So they cast it, but they were not able to haul it in because of the large number of fish.

## Paragraph 3 on Page 308

(John 21:7) Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter: "It is the Lord!" Now Simon Peter, on hearing that it was the Lord, put on his outer garment, for he was naked, and plunged into the sea.

## Paragraph 4 on Page 308

(John 21:10-12) Jesus said to them: "Bring some of the fish you just now caught." 11 So Simon Peter went on board and hauled the net ashore full of big fish, 153 of them. And though there were so many, the net did not burst. 12 Jesus said to them: "Come, have your breakfast." Not one of the disciples had the courage to ask him: "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord.

## Paragraph 5 on Page 308

(John 21:15) When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter: "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He replied to him: "Yes, Lord, you know I have affection for you." He said to him: "Feed my lambs."

## Paragraph 6 on Page 308

(John 21:16) Again he said to him a second time: "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He replied: "Yes, Lord, you know I have affection for you." He said to him: "Shepherd my little sheep."

## Paragraph 7 on Page 308

(John 21:17) He said to him a third time: "Simon son of John, do you have affection for me?" Peter became grieved that he asked him the third time: "Do you have affection for me?" So he said to him: "Lord, you are aware of all things; you know that I have affection for you." Jesus said to him: "Feed my little sheep."

## Paragraph 8 on Page 308

(John 21:18, 19) Most truly I say to you, when you were younger, you used to clothe yourself and walk about where you wanted. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another man will clothe you and carry you where you do not wish." 19 He said this to indicate by what sort of death he would glorify God. After he said this, he said to him: "Continue following me."

## Paragraph 9 on Page 308

(John 21:21-23) So when he caught sight of him, Peter said to Jesus: "Lord, what about this man?" 22 Jesus said to him: "If it is my will for him to remain until I come, of what concern is that to you? You continue following me." 23 So the saying went out among the brothers that this disciple would not die. However, Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but he said: "If it is my will for him to remain until I come, of what concern is that to you?"

◇ What shows that the apostles are uncertain about what to do in Galilee?

◇ How are the apostles able to recognize Jesus at the Sea of Galilee?

◇ Jesus emphasizes that those taking the lead need to do what?

◇ How does Jesus indicate the manner in which Peter will die?

• Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)

• Song 103 and Prayer