There are many other miracles we could have explored, but as our study reaches its end, we need to spend just a little more time thinking through the miracles revolving around Jesus' resurrection. Let's start in John 20.

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the <u>doors</u> being <u>locked</u> where the disciples



were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

(20:19-20)

Eight days later, once again, "although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you'" (20:26).

After this, Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias. Simon Peter, James, John and others had fished through the night and caught nothing.

Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not <u>able</u> to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the <u>Lord!"</u> (21:4-7)

Even though the net was full of large fish-153 in all-the net was not torn.

The apostle John wants to make sure we understand what's behind all these miracles.

Now Jesus did many other <u>signs</u> in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may <u>believe</u> that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have <u>life</u> in his name. (20:30-31)

Luke tells us at the beginning of *The Acts of the Apostles* that Jesus presented himself alive after his sufferings "by many <u>proofs</u>, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God" (1:3). Finally, one day, Jesus was with his apostles on the Mount of Olives. After promising the coming of the Holy Spirit and calling them to be his witnesses, "as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a <u>cloud</u> took him out of their sight" (1:8-9).

So what did it all mean? What does it reveal to us about Jesus? Let's talk about it...

For Class & Family Discussion:

- If you had been in the room with the disciples in John 20:19-20, what would this have proved to you about Jesus? In John 20:24-25, why didn't Thomas believe? What did Jesus do to help Thomas believe in 20:26-27? What impact did it have on Thomas in 20:28? What do you think he meant by that? Can the miracles we've studied this quarter help us say the same thing? And what do you think Jesus meant in 20:29? That miraculous catch of fish in John 21 wasn't the first time Jesus had provided that sign for Peter, was it? Can you find the same sign used near the beginning of Jesus' ministry? What impact did it have on Simon Peter both times? Let's look in our Bibles at John 21:15-19. This was about much more than simply providing lots of fish, wasn't it? What did this sign on that morning lead to between Jesus and Peter? Let's think about what John told us in 20:30-31. What should we learn from that big summary statement? What has this study really been all about? Notice also John 21:24-25. Let's read that together. If John could talk directly to you today, what do you think he would want you to understand from this study? ► There's an interesting connection between Acts 1:6-11 and Daniel 7:9-14. Where did Jesus go in Acts 1? What did it all mean?
- What's the biggest impression about Jesus this study of his miracles has made on you?