

Jesus' Love Provides and Restores

John 21: 1 – 17

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Series: From Resurrection to Pentecost

John 21: 1 - 5

¹ After these things Jesus manifested *Himself* again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and He manifested Himself in this way. ² Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the *sons* of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will also come with you.” They went out and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing. ⁴ But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ So Jesus said to them, “Children, you do not have any fish, do you?” They answered Him, “No.”

A Return to the Past. Vv. 1 – 5.

- Peter goes fishing with six other apostles.
 - Was he giving up on ministry and returning to his previous employment?
 - Was he bored waiting for Jesus?
 - Did they need to make an income?
- The experienced fishermen got skunked.
 - Now without Jesus, returning to previous work did not pay out.
 - Jesus appears knowing they caught nothing.
 - Disciples do not recognize Him.

John 21: 6 - 8

⁶ And He said to them, “Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat and you will find *a catch*.” So they cast, and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great number of fish. ⁷ Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved *said to Peter, “It is the Lord.” So when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put his outer garment on (for he was stripped *for work*), and threw himself into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the little boat, for they were not far from the land, but about one hundred yards away, dragging the net *full* of fish.

Jesus Still Provides. Vv. 6 – 8.

- Although they did not recognize Jesus, they follow His “suggestion.”
 - Jesus prevented them catching any fish until now.
 - The fish don’t know the difference between sides of a boat.
- They caught more than they could imagine.
 - John recognizes Jesus in the miracle.
 - Peter the impetuous jumps overboard to get to Jesus.
 - The rest of the disciples drag the fish to land unable to get all of them into the boat.

John 21: 9 - 14

⁹ So when they got out on the land, they saw a charcoal fire *already* laid and fish placed on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish which you have now caught.” ¹¹ Simon Peter went up and drew the net to land, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come *and* have breakfast.” None of the disciples ventured to question Him, “Who are You?” knowing that it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and Gave *it* to them, and the fish likewise. ¹⁴ This is now the third time that Jesus was manifested to the disciples, after He was raised from the dead.

Fellowship at Breakfast Vv. 9 – 14.

- Jesus had breakfast ready for the hungry fishermen.
 - Jesus invites them to bring some of their catch.
 - Peter drags the net to land and 153 fish are counted.
 - Even with a large number of fish the net was not torn.
- Jesus invites them to breakfast.
 - They knew Who He was.
 - Jesus distributed the food to them.
 - It is noted that this was the third time the disciples had seen the resurrected Jesus.

John 21: 15 - 17

¹⁵ So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me more than these?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Tend My lambs.” ¹⁶ He said to him again a second time, “Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Shepherd My sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me?” Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Tend My sheep.

Peter's Restoration Vv. 15 – 17.

- After breakfast Jesus restores Peter as recognized leader of the Apostles.
 - Do you agape me more than these?
 - Peter responds with Yes, You know I phileo you.
 - Jesus responds commissioning Him to pastor His flock.
- Jesus asks Peter three times the same question, indicating a full restoral for his three denials.
 - The difference between Jesus' second question and response.
 - The third time using phileo, Peter is grieved, but fully restored.

Conclusion

- After God's calling us to service, any attempt to return to former pursuits will not be successful.
- Jesus will provide for His faithful, and proves to either bless secular pursuits for His glory or prevent successes.
- Jesus invites His own to fellowship together and rejoice over His resurrection from the dead.
- Jesus will restore the soul of even those who may deny Him, and call them back into service.