

Sunday - April 11, 2021

# Restored

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Today's Scripture: John 21:1-7

<sup>1</sup> After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: <sup>2</sup> Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. <sup>3</sup> Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing."

They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. <sup>4</sup> But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?"

They answered Him, "No."

<sup>6</sup> And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea.

## JESUS REMINDED PETER OF WHERE IT HAD ALL BEGAN

- *"Then Jesus said to them, 'Children, have you any food?' They answered Him 'No.' And He said to them, 'Cast the net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.' And they cast and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish." John 21:5-6*
- *"It is the Lord!" John 21:7*
- Peter remembered: This was how it happened at the beginning
- It was also the day that Jesus promised to make Peter a fisher of men
- *"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23*
- What do you do when your sin and failure are catching up with you?
- Jesus has the answer. You remember what He has done for you

- Jesus carried Peter back to the beginning so that He would understand, “I wanted you then and I still want you today.”
- Sometimes the Lord takes you back to remind you of how your walk with Him began
- He knows that you need the hope that comes from remembering what He has done for you

## **JESUS RENEWED HIS CALL UPON PETER’S LIFE**

- Once you hear His call, you will never find fulfillment anywhere else
- Jesus was not finished with His broken disciple
- *“Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty three.” John 21:11*
- *Could it be that, as he counted the fish, Peter remembered his call. Jesus said “Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.” Mark 4:19*
- Peter was still commissioned to take the gospel to everyone, everywhere
- The call had not died on the cross or been neutralized by Peter’s denial
- God is never sorry where you are concerned
  - He is not sorry He made you
  - He is not sorry He saved you
  - He is not sorry he called you
  - He will never give up on you.

## **JESUS RESTORED THE RELATIONSHIP**

- The Lord knew Peter still had a broken heart and a wounded soul.
- He made time for a private encounter with Peter
  - Three times, the same question; “Peter, do you love Me?”
  - Three times, the same response; “Lord, You know that I love You”
  - Three times, the same challenge; “Feed My sheep”
- What did Jesus want Peter to understand?
  - I still love you
  - I am ready to trust you again
- In those times when you know you have failed the Lord, you need to understand
  - He still loves you
  - He can forgive you
  - He will restore you
  - He will use you again