

We've been looking at life for the disciples after Easter.

That's because the story of Jesus didn't end with His death nor His resurrection. He did many more things days after He rose from the dead.

The last time we were together we noted that the disciples did not believe the report of Mary that Jesus had risen. But then they did when He appeared.

But wait!

Thomas wasn't with them when Jesus appeared so he didn't believe either.

Eight days later Jesus returned, I believe, just for Thomas. Then Thomas believed.



We left off with Jesus' timeless words in;

Jn 20:29 *Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."*

I love how John closed this chapter:

v.30 *Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;*

v.31 *but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.*

The next time Jesus shows up, He goes fishing.

Jn 21:1 *After these things*

"these things" the revealing of Himself to the ladies in the morning, the disciples that night and imparting the Holy Spirit to them.

Those things!

Jesus manifested Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and He manifested Himself in this way.

"manifested" appeared

"Tiberias" Galilee

The Sea of Galilee is sometimes called the Sea of Tiberias because the city of Tiberias was founded on its western shore in honor of the Roman Emperor, Tiberius.

v.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.*

So,

We have 7 disciples gathered together.

1. Peter
2. Thomas
3. Nathanael
4. James – son of Zebedee
5. John – son of Zebedee
6. -7 two other disciples

v.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.*

KJV "I go a fishing!"

If you were in England,

Men – I go a working.

Ladies – I go a shopping.

They stayed busy as they waited for the Day of Pentecost and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that Jesus promised would come.

They fished all night but had nothing to show for their effort – no fish.

How disappointed they must have been.

Because at an earlier time in Lu 5, they fished all night and caught nothing but then something happened.

Jesus was there and said to push out a little farther and let down the net and it filled with a huge catch of fish.

But this miracle didn't happen again!

v.4 But Jesus shows up again:

But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

What a contrast:

The disciples, toiling on the water, a picture of struggling in the world,
And Jesus, in His resurrection body, standing firmly and calmly on the beach sand.

How many here like the beach sand?

Someone was standing on the shore but they didn't know it was Jesus.

How often He is near but we fail to recognize His presence.

- The dawn was breaking.
- It could have been foggy.
- They were 100 yards out.

v.5 *So Jesus *said to them, "Children, "children" My boys you do not have any fish, do you?"*
Jesus asked the question in the negative.

Not,

Do you have any fish do you?

But,

You don't have any fish do you?

I wonder sometimes if Jesus wants us to be aware of what we do not have that we try to provide for ourselves?

Ex.

You don't have any joy, do you?

You don't have any confidence, do you?

How about courage, or ideas or answers, do you?

For them,

You don't have any fish, do you?

They answered Him, "No."

Okay,

Here is what you need to do!

v.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.*

I don't think this was so much a miracle rather that Jesus could see the swarm of fish from the shore.

Remember, He was in a resurrection body.

v.7 Just then, John recognized it was Jesus.

*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.*

One writer said; (Barclay)

"It was Jewish law that to offer a greeting was a religious act, and to carry out a religious act, a man must be clothed to do so."

Peter was the first to go inside the tomb ahead of John. Now he is the first one to the beach ahead of the others.

v.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.*

v.9 *So when they got out on the land, they *saw a charcoal fire already laid and fish placed on it, and bread.*

"fish and bread" didn't Jesus provide this meal once or twice before?

v.10 *Jesus *said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have now caught."*

And as before,

He includes them in the work.

v.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.*

Peter went back and helped the others drag the net onto the beach.

153 fish

"153" in the days of the pager, 153 meant "I adore you."

Wait!

The disciples didn't have pagers, nor did Jesus.

"153" the numerical total of Hebrew phrase Ani Elohim – "I Am God."

The dragnet is people being gathered together from the troublesome world by the people of God through the directives of Jesus Christ.

Be sure to be caught in the net that is being drawn to Jesus.