TEXT // John 21:1-14 English Standard Version

¹After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He 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 able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead..

SERMON OVERVIEW // The Gospel According to John opens with a prologue about the narratives main character. A well written prologue moves the reader into the story and eventually leads them to an equally well written epilogue. If the prologue is the place we gather important details about the main character - the epilogue is the place we find somewhat of a conclusion or resolution to this chapter in the main characters life. **John 1** is a prologue about Jesus - detailing who He was before coming to earth as well as who He would become in order to do the redemptive work of the Father. **John 21**, by nature then, a the epilogue about Jesus - detailing who He became after completing that redemptive work.

GOSPEL TRUTH // There must be a natural progression in the life of a believer where following Jesus moves to fully **surrendering** to Him and ultimately to serving Him. All who serve Jesus; follow Jesus. But not all who follow Him serve Him - only those that have **fully surrendered** to Him. Those who serve the Lord are those who are fully surrendered followers of Jesus.

Question 1 // Read John 21:1-14. What is something from the text that resonated with you, a truth that encouraged you, or even a question you may have surrounding the text theme?

Question 2 // In studying at the opening to John's epilogue of the life and ministry of Jesus, Adam discussed that there must be a natural progression in the life of believers where following Jesus moves to fully surrendering to Him. Discuss this maturation process and what it looks like. In what ways do you see this growth in the lives of the disciples? Consider your own walk with Jesus - discuss how you have seen a shift from following to surrender - and if you have not seen that shift - discuss that openly and discuss the ways others have made that shift.

Question 3 // Peter, the one who publicly denied Jesus, had learned the grace God is bestowed on repentant sinners in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That marked his shift from a follower to fully surrendered. It is an important reminder of the truth Jesus taught the disciples after leaving the Upper Room: that apart from Him we can do nothing. (John 15:5) With it recently being "Church Planting Sunday", how do you see church planting – both locally and globally – being an important vehicle for bringing the gospel to every tribe, tongue, and nation; until the whole world has heard?

Question 4 // As we draw near to the close of John's gospel it will be evident that those who have been called to follow Him will be expected to fully surrender to Him for the sake of selflessly serving Him. This weeks sermon closed with the question: Where are you? Are you you lost at sea without a clue of where your life is heading? Have you answered the call to follow Jesus? Have you fully surrendered to Him? Are you actively serving Him in your personal life and as a part of the local church? Take some time to discuss where you are - there is nothing but grace and humility to be gained from they type of self-reflection.

Reflection & Prayer

Spend time in praying that God would call those who are lost - to His name. That He would call those who follow Him to fully surrender to Him. And that He would call those who have surrendered to Him to serve His name.