

Easter - "Gone Fishing" (4-4-21)

Introduction: Encountering the Resurrected Jesus

John 21:3 (ESV)

Simon 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.

The Sea of Galilee (Lake: 13x7 miles)

1) Jesus and the miracle catch

- **Simon** - and his partners (cleaning up after a long night)
- **Jesus** - preaches from Simon's boat and then . . .

Luke 5:4-5 (ESV)

(4) And when (Jesus) had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." (5) And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."

- **What was it about Jesus?**

Luke 5:6-11 (ESV)

(6) And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. (7) They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. (8) But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." (9) For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken . . . (10) And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." (11) And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

- **Jesus** - brings us to our core-selves (run or repent)
- **Jesus** - gives us Identity & Purpose

Peter - What now? Why am I out here fishing anyway?

2) Jesus calms the storm

Jesus calms the storm (Matt 8 / Mark 4 / Luke 8)

One evening, Jesus says let's cross the lake:

- A great storm arose
- Boat swamped with waves & taking on water
- They were in danger

"Master, Master, we are perishing!" - Luke 8:24

"Save us, Lord; we are perishing." - Matt 8:25

"Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing" - Mark 4:38

Mark 4:39-40 (ESV)

(39) And (Jesus) awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. (40) He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?"

- Great Calm, with one big exception . . .

Mark 4:41 (ESV)

And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

So much to consider

- Jesus is with us in the storm
- Jesus brings peace & help in the midst of danger & despair
 - **But have you considered the measure of the man?**
 - **Have you stood in awe of God?**
 - **Have you grappled with the power of Jesus?**

Jesus - Why are you so afraid - Have you no faith?

Peter - Could Jesus really just wake up in this storm too?

Everything Jesus said and did was filled with **Power** & brought **Peace**. Could this be any different?

3) Jesus walks on water

Jesus (& Peter) walk on water (Matt 14 / Mark 6)

Disciples cross the sea / Jesus stays to pray

Mark 6:47-48 (ESV)

(47) And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. (48) And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them . . .

- You wanna keep rowing against the wind?
- Just want to put my head down and get through this!

Mark 6:49-50 (ESV)

(49) but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, (50) for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

Matthew 14:28-29 (ESV)

(28) And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." (29) He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus.

- Jesus - calls us into adventure!
- Escalators & Mountain Steps - not all hard things are bad

Matthew 14:30-31 (ESV)

(30) But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." (31) Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Peter - Why do I doubt? Why did I deny him? What if he could come walking out on the sea again now - I'd run to him!

Conclusion: Encountering the Resurrected Christ

John 21:3 (ESV)

Simon 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.

John 21:4-7 (ESV)

(4) **Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore;** yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. (5) **Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No."** (6) 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 able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. (7) **That 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.**

Peter - in that moment he realized something . . . There is no "new normal" and there is no going back to the old normal.

- Jesus stands on the shore - Risen from the Dead!
- There is only what comes next with Jesus!

John 21:8-12 (ESV)

(8) The 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. (9) **When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread.** (10) Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." (11) So 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.** (12) Jesus said to them, "**Come and have breakfast.**"

Come and eat, find warmth around Jesus' fire!