

Come and Have Breakfast
John 21:1-14

Last Sunday: Doubting Thomas

Today: Come and Have Breakfast

Two lessons that are running parallel in this passage:

1. Christ is continually with you though you do not see him.
 - Mt. 28:20, “And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
2. You need to continually abide in Him in order to do anything.
 - Jn. 15:4-5, “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

Lk. 5:1-10, “On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, ‘Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.’ And Simon answered, ‘Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.’ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. 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. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, ‘Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.’ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.’”

21:3/ “I am going fishing.” Possible reasons as to why Peter is going fishing:

1. Peter is disobeying his calling as a disciple of Christ. He should be fishing for men.
2. Peter needs to go fishing since this was his occupation.
3. Peter has a hard time sitting still as he waits for Christ to show up (Mt. 28:7).
4. Peter enjoys fishing.

21:7/ “It is the Lord.” Other ways this phrase is used in the Bible:

- Dt. 31:8, “**It is the Lord** who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.”

- 1 Sm. 3:18, “So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, ‘**It is the Lord**. Let him do what seems good to him.’”

21:11/ “Full of large fish, 153 of them” Is the number 153 symbolic?

1. Augustine: It relates to the sum of all numbers from 1 to 17. The number 17 is the number of commandments (10) plus 7—the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit (Is. 11:2-3).
2. Jerome: It relates to zoologist Oppian of Cilicia’s estimated total number of species of fish.
3. Cyril of Alexandria: 100 stood for Gentiles, 50 stood for Israel, 3 stood for the Trinity.
4. John: He is a fisherman. He knows exactly how many fish they caught.