

9/19/04 BREAKFAST WITH JESUS (Making Ministry)

John 21: 1-14

Intro: I wonder what my thoughts would be if Jesus if Jesus invited me to come to breakfast with Him. I might think “He wants to have a heart to heart with me”, or “oh my He knows my thoughts”, or “this could be worse than a parent-teacher conference at the principals request”. “Hey, maybe He’s impressed with my service to Him”, ... oops there’s that denial thing that He hasn’t said anything about yet, I’ll bet that’s it.” “What does He want, I’m sure going to pray a lot before I go”.

The Mood- 7 disciples are hanging out together. They’re by the water, which they love, and they find something special in being together. They’re a community within a community. Not closed off, they just have this desire and concern for one another. Miracles, trials and trauma and JESUS have bonded them. Jesus is their common denominator. It’s not that they haven’t had squabbles, it’s just that He is their one big unifying force.

VS 1-4 Peter’s comfort zone. WE ALL HAVE THEM.

You recall Peter was a fisherman.

(Read Luke 5: 1-11) Peter had left his way of living before. Nothing was wrong with fishing. A man’s got to survive. Comfort and survival are not bad things you know.

My comfort Zones. What are those things of mine that aren’t evil, and the Lord know I’ve needed them to survive, especially when I really don’t see anyone or anything else to bank on?

1. When I get hurt- I withdraw. Why not?
2. When I get scared inside I get tougher outside. Why not?
3. When I’m really not sure of the future I head for the past. Why not?
4. When I feel hopeless or devalued I look for new territory. Why not?

It’s not that these things are always or inherently bad. But do they become substitutes for allowing Him to deal with me?

THE MIRACLE (vs. 5-8)

He is always doing miracles. It’s hard not to make them # 1 sometimes. JESUS=MIRACLES. They just go together. What really intrigues me is how long it takes me sometimes to recognize that HE is the MIRACLE, even when there aren’t signs and wonders. I just wonder sometimes if I miss the BIG and eternal miracle because I’m focused on the SMALLER and temporary miracle.

Vs 5 My Empty Effort . (Haven’t you any fish?)

“Do you have results from your comfort zones apart from me? Is your comfort Zone more important that the MIRACLES I want to do in your life? Have you been laboring all night again and still no results?

His Effortless Enlarging

My Thinking- Wouldn’t it be easier if I just knew exactly where the fish were? By golly, I need a good fish locator, and better bait. More marketing, better effort, more money. Give me money and equipment and time, in fact give me all NIGHT!

V. 6 His thinking - It’s different it seems. “Throw your net on the right side”, oh, like I haven’t thought of that one. I’ve done that a thousand times with NO results, over and over and over. Isn’t that the definition of insanity? Why will it work this time?

Have you thought that maybe we try to guess where the fish are, boy that’s tough. My efforts are like trying to feed my family off of what fish I can catch in Grindstone Lake. BUT HIM.... He calls the fish to the place where there were no fish at all!! What if the Father had just told JESUS, “tell them where I’ve put the fish”. Wouldn’t it be something to be sourced like that? What if it wasn’t about fish at all, but was about Him being all your provisions?

THE MASTER (Vs. 7-8)

Simon's Response. I like Simon's response. I really think he was far more into the MASTER THAN THEN THE MACKEREL.. Peter jumped fast. No walking on water this time, just "swim to Him". - 100 yards, Peter wants to see HIM, it's all about Him, now.

V. 4 The Master's Relief. The master was there all the time. Even when they didn't recognize Him. All their answers, their provisions, their purpose and their power was in the shadows. Wouldn't it be something if while you're doing the same comfort zone empty thing, with the same nothing results...He was in the center of your life waiting to do the same thing He always does... supplying all your needs with Himself? That's provision!! REMOVING FEAR, RESTORING AND REJUVENATING YOU.

THE MESSAGE

(v. 9-14) He is all Sufficient! He had fish and bread and coals AND the fire going, while they were trying, trying, trying.

(v. 10) His Provision is not dependant on me. The deal is what He can do through you.

(V. 11) He calls the fish, they **haul** the fish!.

(V. 12-14) COME AND HAVE BREAKFAST!! He invites you to join Him - - NOT Impress Him!

REFLECTIONS AND APPLICATIONS:

- 1.) What are my thoughts if Jesus calls to have breakfast with me?
- 2.) What are the comfort zones of my life in times of uncertainty?
- 3.) Are there "rituals/habits" in my life that have felt like insanity?
- 4.) What if Jesus says: "Do it again?", How would you know if it's *Him* saying it?

It would be great if we could trust Him completely to provide our every need.

It would be greater if I heard Him before I wore myself out for nothing.

It would be **greatest** if the biggest thrill of my life was not the fish and bread, but dining with Him.