

April 18, 2020

Signs of His Love - Part 6

John 21:1-14, “Afterward Jesus appeared again to His disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered. He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask Him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.”

So here is Jesus, again feeding hungry men with bread and fish. He’d done it with 4,000 men and again with 5,000 men. Have you ever noticed that everywhere Jesus went, He began by meeting needs. People were hungry, He fed them. People were sick, He healed them. People were blind, He gave them sight. They were lame, He caused them to walk. They were possessed, He set them free. They were hurting, He gave them hope. Jesus was setting a pattern for His disciples and also for us. It has been said, “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.” Jesus didn’t just barge into a place and tell everyone they were going to hell unless they repented. Instead, He let them know how valuable they were by meeting their needs. We would do well to follow His lead and look for opportunities of ministry; pray for doors of opportunity to be open so that we can meet needs. When people see the love of God; when Jesus is lifted up; He will draw all people to Himself.

Dear Lord, help me to look for opportunities to offer a cup of cold water in Your Name. Help me desire to meet needs all around me. Help me to pray for open doors of ministry so that Jesus can be lifted up. In Jesus Name, Amen