

April 3, 2016

*The Pursuit: His Unrelenting Plan to Save Us
A series on Jesus' last week
The Gospel of John: Chapters 13-21*

“He Lives: Finding My Purpose”

John 21

“Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”
‘Yes, Lord,’ Peter replied, ‘you know I love you.’
‘Then feed my lambs,’ Jesus told him.” John 21:15b

A. What is your default when life is not going as you had expected?

1. For Peter...his default was fishing!

“Simon Peter said, ‘I’m going fishing.’” Vs 3

2. For seven...their default was fishing!

“Several of the disciples were there—Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples... ‘We’ll come, too,’ they all said.” Vs 2, 3a

3. The default was not working and it did not produce the results expected. The disciples had exhausted their resources trying to fill their need.

“So they went out in the boat, but they caught nothing all night.” Vs 3b

4. When they came to realize they could not satisfy their need, they were open to suggestions.

“He called out, ‘Fellows, have you caught any fish?’
‘No,’ they replied.

Then he said, ‘Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you’ll get some!’ So they did, and they couldn’t haul in the net because there were so many fish in it.” Vs 5, 6

5. The disciples came to realize that the One who could fill their need was the Lord.

“Then the disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, ‘It’s the Lord!’” Vs 7a

B. What’s for breakfast?

1. Jesus was concerned about the physical needs of His disciples.

“When they got there, they found breakfast waiting for them—fish cooking over a charcoal fire, and some bread.” Vs 9

2. Jesus was waiting to meet their needs and was already prepared.

“Now come and have some breakfast!’ Jesus said.” Vs 12

3. Jesus wanted the disciples to be invested in all that was shared.

“Bring some of the fish you’ve just caught,” Jesus said.” Vs 10

4. When we give our little, he gives us far more in return!

“So Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore. There were 153 large fish, and yet the net hadn’t torn.” Vs 11

C. We begin to find our purpose when we realize that there is more to following Jesus than a free breakfast!

1. After breakfast, Jesus asked the serious questions.

“After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’” Vs 15

2. Three times Jesus asked the question, “Do you love me?”

“Simon son of John, do you love me?”

3. Three times Peter answered the question, “Yes!”

“Yes, Lord,’ Peter replied, ‘you know I love you.’”

4. Three times Jesus instructed him to “Take care of my sheep.”

“Then take care of my sheep,’ Jesus said.”

D. Set free to discover our purpose...

1. We begin to understand our purpose in life when we are free to fully devote ourselves to God.

“Then Jesus told him, ‘Follow me’.” Vs 19b

2. We begin to understand our purpose when our focus is on our mission and not others.

“Peter asked Jesus, ‘What about him, Lord?’” Vs 21

3. We begin to understand our purpose when we realize it always involves sheep (people)!

“Then feed my sheep.” Vs 17c

4. We begin to understand our purpose when we give ourselves fully to God’s work but leave the results in His Hands!

“Then feed my sheep.” Vs 17c

A new series starting next week...

April 10, 2016

Heroes of Faith Part Two

*A series on Heroes of the Old and New Testament
“The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors,
set them above the crowd.” Hebrews 11:2 (The Message)*

“David: A Man After God’s Own Heart”

“After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’” Acts 13:22