



# sermon notes

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
Ps Dave Connell

## COME HAVE BREAKFAST

### **John 21**

#### **Introduction: After the Resurrection**

This event takes place about 8 -16 days after Jesus' resurrection...the most pivotal moment in history  
**The resurrection of Jesus changed eternity—** Everything before it points toward it. Everything after it flows from it.

**But this moment on the beach set who would carry it forward & multiply it.**

**Peter would have been carrying a lot of emotional & mental weight about what had happened ...& what to do now**

**Vs3, Peter says: "I am going fishing."**

This is more than just a casual decision. It likely reflects what's going on inside of him:

- Uncertainty - "What do I/we do now?"
- maybe questioning his call
- Waiting without clarity
- A pull back to familiar identity

Fishing was:

- His old life
- His skillset
- His place of confidence

### **The Reality of Going Back**

Caught nothing...didn't work out as he thought. Was a dead end.

### **Insight:**

You can go back to old ways... but they won't carry the same life anymore  
Once you've encountered Jesus & walked with him, old ways stop producing

**You can revisit your past, but you can't re-inhabit it.**

**Many of us know this feeling after failure, disappointment, or a long season of waiting — we drift back to what's familiar, only to discover the nets are empty.**



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## Jesus Was Already There

Jesus knew exactly where the fish were...already had some cooking  
The disciples don't recognize Him at first. From the boat, He calls out a simple instruction:

***“Cast the net on the right side of the boat.”***

No long explanation. Just one instruction.

**It's not always about working harder...it's about hearing & acting right.**

## The Meaning of the Fish

The symbolism of fish in the Bible => **identity, provision, calling, and the unseen workings of God**

### ***Provision & God's Sustaining Power***

**Fish often appear where God is providing supernaturally.**

- Feeding of the Five Thousand - Jesus multiplies fish to feed thousands.
- Feeding of the Four Thousand - repeated again, reinforcing the message.

#### **Spiritual meaning:**

God can multiply what seems small.

Fish represent hidden provision-resources that come from places you can't see (like the depths of the sea)

Trust in God's ability to sustain, not just naturally but supernaturally.

### ***Abundance & Overflow***

After the resurrection:

Miraculous Catch of Fish - nets are filled beyond expectation.

Obedience to God leads to overflow, not just survival.

There are seasons when all our striving yields nothing. Then, in alignment with His word, everything changes.

### ***Life from the Depths (Hidden Realms)***

Fish live in the sea-often symbolizing:

- Mystery
- Deep water = a person's heart
- The unseen world

#### **Spiritual meaning:**

God brings life & provision out of hidden or unseen places.

The disciples worked all night -> nothing

Jesus speaks -> abundance without striving

Yet... He already had fish cooking

**Their catch mattered...But His provision didn't depend on it**



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## Insight:

Our obedience matters...but God is never dependent on it

**We're not just saved from lack...we're saved into partnership with a mighty heavenly father (source)**

**I wonder what provision Jesus has already cooking for you - hidden ...maybe hidden in plain sight?**

## Jesus Still Serves

Even after resurrection, Jesus:

- Prepares food
- Serves His disciples - He is still Shepherd, not just King

## The Invitation Back

**"Come and have breakfast" is simple but profound.**

After failure, confusion, and fear... Jesus invites them back into relationship, not rebuke

**It's not just breakfast...it's reinstatement of identity & into purpose**

**Jesus didn't just conquer the grave... He came back for the ones who ran.**

## The Charcoal Fire: Restoration Begins

The Charcoal Fire: Where Failure Meets Restoration

Same sensory environment as Peter's denial & failure...a fire

But different outcome

## Insight:

**Jesus doesn't avoid your place of failure...He revisits it to redeem it**

**The resurrection proved who Jesus is... but the beach revealed how He restores**

## The Question That Cuts Deep

Jesus does ask him a very deep question...

The same man who just earlier said "Even if all fall away, I never will."

**"Do you love me more than these?" (John 21:15)**

It's simple on the surface... but it cuts deep when you look at the context.

## What Are "These" Jesus is referring to?

These....who are the 'these?'

## The People Around Him

Is your first love to Me... or to other relationships?

Jesus must be first love, even above community, friendships, culture

## These Things - the old life I called you from

Do you love me more than this life you've returned to?



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Peter had gone back to what was safe & familiar  
Boats, nets, livelihood-all right there on the shore

*Seek first the kingdom of God & all these things shall be added*

**"Who/what I love the most will be my decision maker" > written on my wall**

## Restoration Into Purpose

Jesus asked Peter the same question 3x  
Was not directed at his failure but at his identity

**Was reset into his call & purpose**

***"Feed my sheep."***

Peter is not just forgiven-he is reinstated

## Insight:

**The greatest victory in history was followed by the gentlest act of restoration.  
Grace doesn't just remove your past — it reassigns your future."**

## Conclusion

**Jesus didn't just pull Peter out of failure-He sat him down, fed him, restored him, and sent him forward... *that's the Gospel!***

**Salvation is not just rescue...it's repositioning into an abundant & eternal life!**

**If you're carrying the weight of circumstances today... if you've slipped back into old patterns and the nets feel empty...**

**Hear Jesus calling from: "Come and have breakfast."**

**The same Jesus who rose from the dead still comes back for those who have failed**

**He turns charcoal fires into fires of restoration — and sends us out again with fresh purpose.**

**He has provision ready. He is waiting to restore, not to rebuke.**

**You just need to respond to his invitation**

**Who or what do you truly value the most?**

**Then receive His gentle commission: Feed my sheep => put kingdom interests first...care for my people**