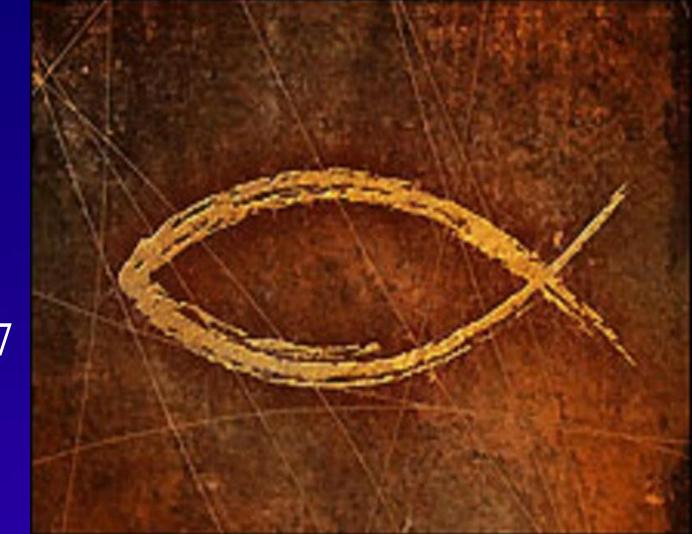
"GONE FISHING" John 21:1-17



# Gone Fishing! (Relating to a Risen & Returning Lord)

Some beautiful lessons can be discovered about how to live while we wait for Jesus to come back for us.

#### I. We Need to be <u>Together</u>—<u>Fellowship</u> (vv. 1-2)

- 1."And being assembled together with them"
  (Acts 1:4)
- 2."When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place" (Acts 2:1)

#### I. We Need to be <u>Together</u>—<u>Fellowship</u> (vv. 1-2)

- 3. Church: originally a secular term—a group of citizens called out of society to assemble
- 4. Biblical definition of the church: a holy assembly called out separately to meet regularly and worship Christ principally

#### I. We Need to be <u>Together</u>—<u>Fellowship</u> (vv. 1-2)

5."And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24-25)

#### II. We Need to be Active—Partnership (vv. 3-6)

- 1. They were in Galilee because Jesus told them to wait for Him there
  - 2. They were obedient; actively waiting

#### II. We Need to be Active—Partnership (vv. 3-6)

3. Wait actively

a. Stay busy

b."Occupy till I come" (Luke 19:13, KJV)

- 1. They didn't recognize Him
- 2. Sometimes we think He has abandoned us
- 3. Jacob: "Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it" (Genesis 28:16)

Why did Jesus ask? He knew the answer

Admit their failure

Recognize their need

Frequently asks for this purpose

To Adam, "Where are you?" (Genesis 3:9)

"Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" (Genesis 3:11)

"What are you doing here, Elijah?"

(1 Kings 19:9)

Failure is good for us

Think about your methods

Think about your motives

Open to something <u>new</u>

Abraham Lincoln: failed at politics, failed at business; 17 years paying off debts; engaged to girl; she died; returned to politics—defeated multiple times; learned from failures

## IV. We Need to be Intimate—Worship (vv. 12-14)

Possible to be so busy doing the King's business that you forget the King Himself

Motives

<u>Guilt</u>

<u>Fulfillment</u>

## IV. We Need to be Intimate—Worship (vv. 12-14)

Recognition

Love for Jesus: worship

Christian life cannot be lived in cruise control

## How to Relate to a Risen and Returning Christ

- 1. We Need to be Together-Fellowship
  - 2. We need to be Active-Partnership
- 3. We Need to be Obedient-Stewardship
  - 4. We Need to be Intimate-Worship