



## EASTERTIDE 2021

“A Breakfast to Remember”

John 21:1-14

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*“When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread.”*

### **Deja Vous**

The second miraculous catch of fish

Compare with Luke 5:1-12

Similarities and Differences (see chart below)

A recommissioning for two reasons

One: Not yet the end of the world! (see Daniel 12:2, Acts 1:6)

Back to Galilee and away from Jerusalem

Two: Fishers of People, Part Two

Without the physical Jesus beside, the Holy Spirit inside

Our journey as a circular staircase

### **Apart From Me You Can Do Nothing**

Casting the net on the right side of the boat

A ridiculous adjustment in the area of the disciples' expertise

Fruitfulness is not a matter of technique nor luck

Fruitfulness is a matter of obedience to the voice of Jesus

The Naman syndrome: 2 Kings 5:1-14

Faithfulness in small, ordinary things as obedience preludes the great catch

As we think about our own mission plan in formation

### **Jesus Doesn't Need Me!**

The resurrected Lord is serving the disciples breakfast, not asking to be served

Breakfast was already cooking when the disciples arrived

He didn't need their contribution to make breakfast

He includes their contribution (which was only made possible by His miracle)

Jesus doesn't need us, which is a freeing joyful truth!

Reason one: God's kingdom mission's success does not depend on you or me.

Reason two: our value is not in our production but in our being

Reason three: our work for our God is more His gift to us than our gift to Him

Their contribution to breakfast was first His gift to them

Our participation truly is a joy, as long as we remember its gratuitous nature

When I become "needed", the mission turns from wonder to burden

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**From T.S. Eliot's Little Gidding:**

*With the drawing of this Love and the voice of this Calling*

*We shall not cease from exploration*

*And the end of all our exploring*

*Will be to arrive where we started*

*And know the place for the first time.*

*Comparison of the two accounts of a miraculous catch of fish*

	Luke 5:1-12	John 21:1-14
<b>Who was there?</b>	Peter, James, John	Peter, James, John, Thomas, Nathaniel, two unnamed
<b>Boats</b>	Two boats	One boat
<b>Location</b>	Shore of the Sea of Galilee	Shore of the Sea of Galilee
<b>Crowd</b>	Large crowd present	No crowd present
<b>Jesus location</b>	In the boat with Peter	On the shore, disciples in boat
<b>Timing</b>	Separate from the night toil	At the end of the night toil
<b>Nets and boats</b>	Nets breaking, boats sinking	Net did not break, boat no issue
<b>Relative to Jesus life</b>	Beginning of ministry	End of ministry
<b>Peter's reaction</b>	Confession of sin	Runs wildly toward Jesus

## **Sonnet 19: When I consider how my light is spent**

BY JOHN MILTON

When I consider how my light is spent,  
Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,  
And that one Talent which is death to hide  
Lodged with me useless, though my Soul more bent  
To serve therewith my Maker, and present  
My true account, lest he returning chide;  
“Doth God exact day-labour, light denied?”  
I fondly ask. But patience, to prevent  
That murmur, soon replies, “God doth not need  
Either man’s work or his own gifts; who best  
Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. His state  
Is Kingly. Thousands at his bidding speed  
And post o’er Land and Ocean without rest:  
They also serve who only stand and wait.”