

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23 | *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.* (v1)

1 John 3:16-24

John 21:1-19

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost & guide us into your fold. Feed us, & we shall be satisfied; heal us, & we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live & reign with the Father & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- John 21:1-19

¹After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; & he showed himself in this way. ...⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, & you will find some." So they cast it, & now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" ...⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, & bread. ...¹²Jesus said to them, "Come & have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came & took the bread & gave it to them, & did the same with the fish. ...¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" & he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ...¹⁹After this he said to him, "Follow me."

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. What are the precedents for this story? See *Matthew 13:47-50; Luke 5:1-11; Luke 24:36-49*
2. How does *1 John 3:16-24* connect with the Gospel lesson, esp. vv15-19?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. 153 seems merely to specify the size of the catch (cf. distance in v8). No symbolic significance has received widespread support across the centuries. Review these relevant Wikipedia articles tinyurl.com/2mb3tfs3 | tinyurl.com/29a8ktyz & your study Bible's notes. Which symbolic meanings make the most sense to you? How come?
4. How are vv1-4 ironic in light of *Matthew 4:18-23*? The human mind always reverts to previous training/habits. When have you found yourself returning to old ways, despite Gospel, spiritual enlightenment? *Note: this isn't really about sins as it's about unproductive patterns- even if they were once beneficial for you.*

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Consider *John 6:11 & 13:4-5* alongside vv9-12. Once again Jesus serves his disciples (not the other way around, cf. *Matthew 20:25-28*). What makes meal service (cf. vv15-17) such a powerful example & symbol for Christian work in the world? Who is your congregation feeding in both senses? Who needs to be fed in your congregation's neighborhood? How can you help?
6. God establishes the New Testament pastorate so that the people will hear & receive saving faith (cf. vv15-17, 20:19-29, 13:12-15; *Romans 10:13-17; 1 Corinthians 3:5-9; Augsburg Confession V, available bookofconcord.org*). List at least 12 ways your pastor feeds you & give thanks to God for them (& maybe tell your pastor, too.)

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Fourth Sunday of Easter

04.21.24

Series: Let's Eat

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Life together is more than food, but not less

Soul Food

The care & feeding of Jesus' lambs

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: Jesus said to [Peter], "Feed my sheep...
After this he said to him, "Follow me." (*vv17b, 19b*)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Jesus says, I am the good shepherd. I know my own & my own know me.
(*John 10:14*)

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Second Sunday of Easter

04.07.24

Series: Let's Eat

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

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Soul Food

The care & feeding of Jesus' lambs

-Notes-

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