

Gone Fishing

Scripture Reading — John 21:1-14

*Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught."
—John 21:10—*

Seven of Jesus' disciples have gone fishing. Perhaps after experiencing the shocking events of Jesus' horrible death and his startling resurrection, they needed to do something familiar. Or maybe it was simply for practical reasons—for income and basic survival they may have needed to return to work. Whatever the reason, Jesus' disciples went fishing, and when things were not going well, Jesus showed up with a miracle.

John makes clear that the main purpose for this miraculous resurrection appearance was to provide another opportunity for Jesus' disciples to witness his risen presence and divine power. But there are other messages in this story as well.

Did you notice that Jesus engaged the disciples on their own turf, as they were going about their everyday lives? Jesus blessed their vocational efforts with his goodness and power. Then he also called them to offer their work, to bring the fruits of their labor (some fish) back to him.

It's the same for us. Jesus enables us to use our gifts, talents, treasures, and vocations to the glory of God. In addition, we are called to offer the fruits of our work, to share the blessings we have received so that others can benefit, also to God's glory.

What do you have? What have you been given? What gift, treasure, or talent can you offer in service to the Lord today?

Prayer

Lord, help me to see you at work in my everyday living. Help me to use the gifts and talents you've given me and to offer them back to you. Amen.

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