

Breakfast by the Sea

Ray Stedman

I. Introduction. Text: John 21.

II. Fishing on the Sea of Galilee.

A. The Lord's intention was that the disciples not catch anything that night—success can be worse than failure.

1. To claim to be a self-made man reveals great human ignorance.

2. A man is to put in double work and double energy but look to the One who turns failure into success.

B. The account is to tell what God can do with a night of failure.

1. The Apostles recognized Jesus by His miraculous work.

2. There are parallels to work of fishing for men.

a. The Lord provided the product. We work with God in what He is doing.

b. The gospel is a universal gospel.

c. The work of fishing would also bless the fishermen.

C. Jesus shepherds Peter by restoring him in regards to his denial.

1. Both took place by a charcoal fire, both have the name Simon Peter and both involve a three-fold statement.

2. Peter learns some very painful lessons about manifesting love—feeding sheep through teaching the Word and making some sacrifice.

3. We need to be able to acknowledge that we have needs and have something to offer in the Lord's service.

D. We can rest upon the revelation and testimony of God—it is reliable.

Application questions:

1. How does the disciples' failure create dependence upon Jesus ultimately?

2. Peter had to learn a valuable lesson about leading—what was it?

3. How can we rely upon Jesus in a similar manner as the disciples did?
