



July 7, 2024 Sermon Notes

Sermon:

“Net Breaking Blessings”

(John 21:5-6)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

Sermon Text:

John 21:5-6 ESV

Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." [6] He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish.

Background:

- Here in this 21st chapter of John after John 20 from resurrection, seeing His disciples, and even seeing Thomas now here is Jesus in another scenario that shows another time that He has been revealed. It is Jesus who revealed himself to His disciples at the Sea of Tiberias which was the Sea of Galilee, and this sea lies in the deep trough of the Jordan valley, almost due East of the Bay of Acre. The surface is 680 ft. below the level of the Mediterranean. It varies in depth from 130 ft. to 148 ft.
- Then here you see that Simon Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, and the sons of Zebedee who were James and John and two other disciples were together, and then here was Simon Peter that said that he was going fishing. After Simon Peter announced it, the other disciples said that they would go with Simon Peter and they all got into a boat but that night they didn't catch anything.
- Night time was the best time to fish in these times, and the reason it was this way was because these fish could be sold in the marketplace in the morning. Then without anything to show for that whole night, it was Jesus that showed up but they didn't even know that it was Jesus, even after He had just revealed Himself to His disciples, and it was at the breaking of day that Jesus showed up.

- It is amazing how Simon Peter goes fishing at night, and how this text has similarities to Luke 5 when they toiled all night and caught nothing until Jesus showed up, and now you see that they are going fishing and even though they went to the water they caught nothing. That is what happens that even though you go to water and lake that doesn't mean you are going to catch anything, but then now you see what happens when you do have to live with failure, and not just that how do you bounce back because even though you have a tough time don't forget that Jesus is there, and since Jesus is there it isn't over until the Lord gets down.
- The Lord has you, the Lord will guide you, and the Lord will bless you but that is also when any person has to realize that there will be tough times, but don't quit. Don't quit, and don't give in but that is when you have to make sure that you know that Jesus is there, Jesus is alive, and Jesus will never forget you. That is the key, and that is the reality, and we must always trust in the Lord and since we trust in the Lord a tough night won't be the last chance if you keep going and trusting in the Lord things can and will turn around from sadness to happiness!

“The Blessings Of The Right Side”

- The water is not wrong but it is the direction of my net, because I am in the right water but I just need to make sure that I am in the right position with my net. There are times that we all have to understand that as well, is that sometimes we don't need to change the lake but we need to change the location of the net, because sometimes when things don't go our way we feel we have to leave the net, but if you leave too quickly you might miss the blessings that the Lord has for you in this water, because the water that you are in right now is not bad especially because the Lord is right there in the water with you.
- Sometimes in life you have to make adjustments, sometimes in life you have to go in another direction, sometimes in life you have to go with the Lord, and in going with the Lord you realize that in following the Lord sometimes you get down but that's the time to get ready for the next season.
- There's something to be said about the fact that just one change in direction changed everything, because once they did what the Lord said it was then that they caught so many fish and they were unable to haul them in. That's the blessing that they didn't catch the fish until they listened to the Lord, it is different when we don't listen to the Lord because we stay empty when we don't listen but when we do listen that's when the blessing comes. They caught 153 fish, and then even had breakfast with the Lord but it was when they had to go to the right side, and when they went to the right side that is when the fish came.
- They didn't catch the fish when they tried it their way, but when they did it God's way that is when they had it all, and when I do it the Lord's way I see that the Lord will show me so much that I know that it was nobody but the Lord!

- **The Lord will make me satisfied, but it is also when looking at my life I am ready for the blessings, but I understand that I have to make sure that I am on the right side, and when you have that type of mindset, and that type of faith there is no stopping you! You have to have right side faith, when you have right side faith you see the possibilities, you see the dreams happening, you see the prayers answered, you see the Church reaching further heights, and you see what can be because I am on the right side.**
- **The Lord gave me the word to be blessed and that was to go on the right side, and it is not hard to follow God and be blessed. There are times we make things hard, there are times we make things difficult, and there are times that we make things more strenuous than they should be but if we would just do what the Lord says that is the blueprint, God has all of this ready for us but what are we doing are we letting it bypass us, and have we blown our blessings because we won't obey? However, haven't you gone through enough hurts, enough burdens, and enough setbacks to the point now you say that I want it, and God I choose to follow you!**

“The Fish Are There”

- **I refuse to live below my potential, I refuse to live below my means, and I refuse to miss out on what the Lord has for me. That should be your mindset that I have more to live for, I want more for my life, I want my life to mean something, I want my life to have meaning, and I want my life to have purpose but I got to get to the right side. I have to get there, and when I get there and see the blessings of the Lord there's no turning back, there's no missing out, because once the Lord gives you a taste of what happens when you follow Him you won't miss out on anything else because you've seen the Lord do great things, and great things make you up and make you want more great things because of following God!**
- **You want more then don't quit, rejection will happen but don't quit, you might lose a car but don't quit, you might fail a test but don't quit, you might have to miss a semester of college but don't quit, you might have to move in with a family member but don't quit, you might have had a problem with your credit but don't quit, you might have had some devastating days and made some colossal decisions that you know are mistakes but don't. Don't quit just yet, there's bound to be something that happens to you when you don't quit and I am staying encouraged because I know that the Lord will bless me, and I am getting my blessings by being obedient.**
- **There's still hope when we follow the Lord, and you know there are times in fishing that fishing can be long, sometimes you might not catch anything, and sometimes you can be out all day but it's when you give that one more try it works! One more try is all it takes, and when you think about great leaders that have it one more try, we wouldn't have auto companies, we wouldn't have restaurants, we wouldn't have sports franchises, we wouldn't have movie companies, we wouldn't have colleges, we**

wouldn't have schools, we wouldn't have Churches, we wouldn't have appliances, and we wouldn't have the laws we do but somebody gave it one more try!

- When you have tough times what do you do at that moment, do you quit or do you try it again because when you say you have faith in God and even faith in yourself, that is when you need to make sure to live what you believe, follow what you believe, and trust in what you believe because as you follow the Lord and live don't think that you will always have it easy, don't think that you will always have it going your way, and don't think that you won't have that failure but whatever you do, don't leave the water because in the water that blessing is there and because that blessing is there it just takes that one more try.
- There are times we make things hard, there are times we make things difficult, and there are times that we make things more strenuous than they should be but if we would just do what the Lord says that is the blueprint, God has all of this ready for us but what are we doing are we letting it bypass us, and have we blown our blessings because we won't obey? However, haven't you gone through enough hurts, enough burdens, and enough setbacks to the point now you say that I want it, and God I choose to follow you!

This Week's Goals:

- Read John 21!
- Seek God for direction!

Broadway MBC - Winchester, Kentucky

Pastor G. Chris Brown

121 W. Broadway St, Winchester, Kentucky 40391

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