CALLING RENEWED ENCOUNTERS WITH THE RISEN JESUS

One of the most significant encounters that Jesus had after his resurrection was with one of his disciples. Peter was one in the inner circle of three and, along with James and John, he had been witness to some key events in the ministry of Jesus, and been given deep insight into Jesus's identity. The events on the night of Jesus's trial and subsequent death had left him reeling and had the potential to derail the call of Jesus on his life, and undo the training of the last three years. Let's explore his journey with Jesus and his encounter with the risen Christ on a beach by Galilee.

Luke 5:1-11

On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, ² and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴ And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." 6 And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷ They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. 8 But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." ⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

Matthew 16:15-17

¹⁵ Jesus said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven."

READ Luke 5:1-3 Mark Jesus/he with a — and Peter with a — Underline the boat's locations.

V2 What is Peter doing as Jesus teaches?

V3 Why does Jesus want Peter's boat?

What does this require from Peter?

To what degree is our service for God being willing to be "a little put out"? Think of examples.

READ Luke 5:4-11 and mark as above. *V4 Where has Peter to take his boat and why?*

V5 On what basis does Peter respond? What does this require from him?

What is the outcome? What is revealed to Peter in that moment? V6 & V8

How does Jesus respond? What is his invitation?

Where is Peter's boat in v11? How does this reflect Peter's actions at this point?

Where is your "boat" at this point in your journey?

Peter is now Jesus' disciple and follows him for the next three years. Jesus is making him into a fisher of men as Peter comes to know him more.

READ Matthew 16:15-17 Mark Jesus and Peter as before.

Who does Peter say Jesus is, and how did he come to understand this?

John 6:66-69

⁶⁶ After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹ and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

Luke 22:31-34

(The night of Jesus arrest)

³¹ "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, ³² but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." ³³ Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." ³⁴ Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me."

John 18:18a, 25, 27

- ¹⁸ Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves.
- ²⁵ Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not."
- ²⁷ Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

John 21:1-3

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ² Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing

There were times when Jesus's teaching was hard for people to understand and accept. (John 6:22-59)

Read John 6:66-69 Mark Jesus/ Peter as before.

Who does Jesus address his question to? V67 Who answers first and what does he understand?

Peter is shaping up well as a disciple of Jesus. He is an A* student! Yet there is still more for him to learn, and a testing time is on its way.

Read Luke 22:31-34 Mark as before.

What warning is Jesus issuing to Peter?

How does Jesus respond to Satan's request?

What is Peter's response? Where is his confidence?

Read John 18:18a, 25 Mark as before.

Where was Peter standing and who with? What is their conversation about?

V27 How do you imagine Peter felt at this point? How does Jesus's warning come true?

Often, when we have unconsciously strayed from walking in obedience to God, we are jolted awake and suddenly realise we have failed. It can feel like the end—that our usefulness to God is over.

READ John 21:1-3 Mark Jesus and Peter as before.

V1 What is Jesus doing through the events of this chapter?

Where do these events occur?

V3 What does Peter decide to do? What happens?

How does this relate to Luke 5:5,11 (Page 1)

Peter boat is back in the water. What does this tell you about how he is thinking at this point?

John 21:4-7a

⁴ Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ 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. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!"

John 21: 9-10,12a

⁹ When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast."

John 21:15-17

¹⁵ When 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." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

Acts 2:38, 41

(the end of Peter's sermon at Pentecost)

³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Read John 21:4-7a Mark Jesus with a ____ and Peter with a ____

What does Jesus call the disciples and what does he ask them to do?

How does this incident reveal Jesus to John?

Who does he tell? Why do you think that is?

What memories are being brought back? (Luke 5)

Read John 21:9-10,12a Mark as above.

What type of fire are they sitting around? When did Peter last see a charcoal fire?

What is on the fire? What is significant about fish and bread?

How is Jesus revealing himself to Peter?

Jesus invites them to sit and have breakfast. As Peter reflects on all these memories what thoughts do you think he will be having?

Read John 21:15-17 Mark as above.

What questions could Jesus have asked Peter?

How does the one question Jesus asks reveal what he sees as the key issue?

V15 What do you think the "more than these" are?

How significant is it that Jesus recommissions Peter 3 times?

What can we learn about being restored? Who takes the initiative to make this possible?

Read Acts 2:38,41

How do we see Peter's calling to be a fisher of men come to be fulfilled?

How did Peter's failure prepare him for God's call? How would you respond to the question, "Do you love me more than these?"

Do you need to have breakfast with Jesus?



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