

UNEXPECTED SURPRISES

December 16, 2018 John 21:1-14 by Bob Branch
Experiencing The Passion of Jesus, part 11

BIG IDEA: The Risen Jesus shows up in completely unexpected places, doing unexpected things, supplying unexpected resources. It is that same Risen Jesus who interacts with you today. Every encounter you've ever had with him is with this One who conquered death!

“After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. 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.

1. There is a strong pull to return to our FAMILIAR, old lives, even after encountering the Risen Jesus. (Eph. 4:22-23)

Living in sync with this new resurrection reality will take some altering of life as we know it.

Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, “Children, do you have any fish?” They answered him, “No.” 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. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, “It is the Lord!”

2. He’s working everywhere, all the time, so LOOK FOR HIM and respond to him, no matter where you find him. (John 1:41, 45)

Emil Durkheim: “the *sacred* and the *profane*” or the sacred and the secular.

When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

3. The Risen Jesus will show up in the most unexpected places—even AT WORK! (or school, or neighborhood, or grocery store!)

“My Father is always working, and so am I.” **Jn. 5:17** NLT

When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.” **John 21:1-14** ESV

4. Sometimes this Risen Jesus will show up in ways we know it’s him, but it is not always crystal clear—and he becomes CLEARER over time. (Lk. 24:13-35).