

Going Back Into Fishing

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Coordinator

Topic:

GOING BACK INTO FISHING

Key Text: John 21:1-19

Teacher; Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Prayer

Father we thank You, we exalt You, we bless Your Holy name, Father we say You're worthy to be praised, thank You for a day like this, thank You for Your word that is about to transform our lives, help us to work in Your ways all the days of our lives in Jesus name. Amen

Study

Let's all have a deeper understanding of tonight's study, as I will just be picking verses from the chapter. After the resurrection of The Lord Jesus Christ some of the disciples still walked together and Peter who is perceived to be the captain of the team was also with them. They were seven of them in number, The Lord had said to Peter before he was taken away from them that on this rock will I build my church and the gates of hades will not prevail against it. The Lord had commissioned His disciples, telling them to go out into the world saying he is sending them out just the way his Father sent Him, but He also told them at His ascension that they should remain at Jerusalem until they receive the promise of the Father which is The Holy Ghost, In their waiting instead of them to gather themselves and wait prayerfully in studying of the scriptures and fasting they got so idle to the point that Peter the captain of the team (group of disciples) said he wants to go fishing. **John 21:3 KJV Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.**

He had been a fisherman before The Lord called him into ministry, and throughout The Lord's stay with them on Earth, he did not think of going back into fishing because the mandate on him was to fish men, but now that he got so idle, his Love for fishing got revived and he declared that he was going into fishing, he forgot the great commission placed in his hands. It's not that fishing

was bad but for him particularly to go back into fishing means to leave what Christ had placed in his hand for another thing of less importance, it means he will be working out of The will of God for his life for The Lord Jesus' Christ had said to him "**follow Me**"

"**Follow Me**" for there is already a mission written concerning you that you must fulfill. "Follow Me" because there is more about you than fishing on the sea. "Follow Me" for man shall not live by bread alone, Just "follow Me" and **I will make you!** make you whom I created you to be, make you a wonder among the brethren, though the process might be painful, in fact it might be difficult but I will make you to fish men which are of great value than fishes. This was The Lord's will for Peter and even other disciples, Many of them were told those same words "follow Me" for in following Him there is total fulfilment but Peter forgot this too soon and he told other disciples that "I am going fishing" the moment his focused on Christ reclined, when he no longer fellowshiped with The Lord, his love for his secular work revived, the same it is with us, whenever we desert the place of personal Communion with The Lord our love for the secular activities which he had taken from our hands gets revived. Peter would not have fulfilled his calling as an apostle if he had refused to give up fishing so he went back when there was no more devotion with The Master who has said to him "follow Me".

There are many whom The Lord had said to like Peter "follow Me" and they followed but as time went on they lost their personal fellowship with the Master and they got weak to the point that they started going back into what The Lord had called them out from. It's a pity that many has gone back into catching fishes. The major reason why anyone can go back from the mission The Lord has sent him to accomplish is when such a person deserts fellowshiping with The Lord turning over into idleness. When a man turns away from what he has been called to do such a man becomes idle before God although he may think he is busy but in the real sense he is idle. And since Peter was the leader of the group and he had declared that he was going back into fishing just like the report Apostle Paul gave concerning Demas, they all decided to join him even those who were not fishermen beforehand. They went out and immediately got into the boat, none of them gave their actions a second thought, they just concluded and because of the errors of their leader they all did not think twice before going into such an error,

there are many in the church today who are still following the errors of their leaders, they are quick to forget what the Master had told them and commissioned them to do because they feel their leaders are always right, they follow them blindly forsaking what The Lord had committed into their own hands. God called some into ministry and their leaders gave them another one and they did not quickly bring the attention of these leaders to what The Lord said to them, but they chose to follow blindly without counting the cost. Thank God for The Lord Jesus Christ who quickly came to correct the error committed by Peter, if not Peter's mistake would have thwarted the calling and ministry of the other Apostles, as Christians, when a leader is going against the commandments of The Lord we need not to join him in such error for everyone will give account of himself to God.

Romans 14:12 KJV So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. The Lord asked Peter "do you love Me more than these?" after they had eaten breakfast. **John 21:15 KJV** So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. Peter should not have taken such a decision which any of the other apostles could have taken if he was to Love The Lord than them and if he also was to have focused on the mission The Lord gave to him than fishing. So The Lord had to ask him three times if he loved him more than any other which broke him and The Lord for the second time said to Peter follow Me and he followed Him. **John 21:19 KJV** This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me. from Peter's action we can see that he was weak but The Lord Jesus Christ did not leave him alone, He had to come back for him to strengthen him for the mission ahead, at times we also might feel weak and feel so incapable in the mission God has sent us to accomplish but we have to understand that The Lord is always there to strengthen us for He will never leave nor forsake us. When The Lord told me to organize an online leaders conference, I thought I was not fit enough to do that, and I kept dodging it, not until I got the assurance that He was with me, and it was a success to His glory, then I knew God's work is not by the arm of flesh. The same question The Lord asked Peter is the same question He is asking you and I "do you love me more than these? "More than your husband, more than your wife, more than your children, more than

your job, some people's jobs has taken fellowship with The Lord from their hands, friends has taken the place of Christ and His commission from the hands of many, some are to leave the ministry they are currently as commanded by The Lord and go ahead to start a ministry in a very remote area or go under someone else but they love the ministry where they are currently more than The Lord so they have gone back into fishing but The Lord is asking them "do you love me more than these things you are holding unto?" As a leader have you not gone back into fishing? (Businesses other than the one The Lord Jesus Christ has sent you) because of the challenges you are passing through saying the gospel does not pay. Going back into fishing means that you preaching the gospel because of the material gains of this world which are fishes and not souls of men which have greater value in the sight of God than any other thing.

Do you love Me more than these? The Lord is asking you now. Do you love Me more than houses, do you love Me with all your soul? Do you love Me than your reputation, than your qualifications? What about your ambitions? Do you love Me more than them? Remember any other thing you are doing outside the will of God is you going back into fishing. Where you called to sing in God's vineyard but you are now preaching, hmmm... You are out of place, you are fishing, where you instructed by The Lord to wash the toilet but you are now a teacher doing what He has not sent you, you have actually gone into fishing, brethren, going back does not please The Lord, If you have left the truth of God's Word to focus on money, you have gone back into fishing, you are no longer a fisher of men but of fishes (material things of this world) The Lord is here to bring you back on track through His Word. He is showing forth now and His also saying to you what He said to Peter the second time "**follow Me**" would you turn back to Him like Peter, following Him to leave those dead works behind? **John 21:19 KJV And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.** Hear The Lord's voice speaking to you now, follow Me!, follow the right will of God in marriage, in career, in ministry just follow Me, and you'd be fulfilled. He says!

Prayer

Father I pray that Your word shall guide our paths and help us to walk in Your ways always in Jesus Christ name. Amen.

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