



**April 26, 2019**

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## Scripture

### **John, 21: 1-14**

Jesus revealed himself again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. He revealed himself in this way.

Together were Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two others of his disciples.

Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing."

They said to him, "We also will come with you."

So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore; but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?"

They answered him, "No."

So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something."

So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in because of the number of fish.

So the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord."

When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly clad, and jumped into the sea.

The other disciples came in the boat,

for they were not far from shore, only about a hundred yards, dragging the net with the fish.  
When they climbed out on shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread.  
Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught."  
So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore full of one hundred fifty-three large fish.  
Even though there were so many, the net was not torn.  
Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast."  
And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they realized it was the Lord.  
Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish.  
This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples after being raised from the dead.

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

When our world has been shaken we find comfort in the past, the familiar. That was the case with the apostles. After Jesus suffered and died and before He appeared to them at Easter, they had gone back to fishing. But that's not where Jesus would let them stay. They had a mission to carry out in His name. Instead of fishing for fish they would go fishing for men, something much more risky and uncertain. But He would be with them at every turn.

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## **Food for your Journey**

The man with the greatest voice in popular music gave up his fame (and his women, and his cocaine) to serve the Lord 23 years ago. He spends most of his time preaching in a Memphis church. Will he ever make another great soul record?

God only knows... .

In spite of the magnitude of his success, Al Green chose to walk away from secular music - and, in fact, secular life - before the 70s had ended. Every now and then, he surfaces in his old guise - a duet with Lyle Lovett here, a bit on Ally McBeal there - but for the most part, Green's life since his religious awakening has been one of renunciation. As Green explains to me one day,

talking about his born-again experience, "God said to me, 'I want you to be priceless. The love of God cannot be bought.' God told me I could have more clothes than I could ever possibly wear, and more food than I could ever eat, and more cars than I could ever drive, and all that money. And then he said to me, 'I kept my side of the bargain - what about you?'"

Now Al Green is keeping his side of the bargain - with a gesture toward God every bit as large as his talent.

-Scott Spencer, "Al Green's gotta

serve somebody," Rolling Stone,

September 28, 2000, 32-34.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear God, Change is very difficult. I always feel more comfortable doing things that are familiar even though I risk becoming stagnant. But Lord, Your resurrection calls me to a new way of thinking and living. Help me to embrace the new life to which You call me. Amen