



# Daily Reflections

**May 5, 2019**

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## Scripture

### **John 21: 1-19**

At that time, 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.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter,  
"Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?"

Simon Peter answered him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."

He then said to Simon Peter a second time,

"Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

Simon Peter answered him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."

Jesus said to him the third time,

"Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a 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.

Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger,

you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted;

but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands,

and someone else will dress you

and lead you where you do not want to go."

He said this signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God.

And when he had said this, he said to him, "Follow me."

# **Our Scripture Reflection**

Today's Gospel reading has been called "The Rehabilitation of Peter." Why? Because Peter had denied Our Lord three times during His passion. Jesus knew that the best "medicine" for Peter was to passionately profess his love for Jesus in order to undo the harm Peter had done to himself. How often we are weighed down by the sinful things we do. Sin effects us at the deepest level, the level of the soul. No self-help book or psychotherapy session can heal the soul. To heal the deepest of wounds we must confess, repent and pray for God's Grace.

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## **Food for your Journey**

In his book *Bread for the Journey*, Henri J.M. Nouwen writes that "we often confuse unconditional love with unconditional approval. God loves us without conditions but does not approve of every human behavior. God doesn't approve of betrayal, violence, hatred, suspicion and all other expressions of evil, because they all contradict the love God wants to instill in the human heart. Evil is the absence of God's love. Evil does not belong to God.

"God's unconditional love means that God continues to love us even when we say or think evil things. God continues to wait for us as a loving parent waits for the return of a lost child. It is important for us to hold on to the truth that God never gives up loving us even when God is saddened by what we do. That truth will help us to return to God's ever-present love."

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear God, I turn to You this day to pray for Your healing Grace as I repent of my sins. Heal me, Lord. Help me to move forward and to live as the person You created me to be. Amen