

VIA LUCIS - BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH

As preached on Sunday, July 10th

Read: John 21:1-14

1. We've talked about the fact that chapter 21 of John's gospel was probably not the gospel's original conclusion. What is your feeling about this? Why do you think it was included? Do you think it provides a helpful conclusion? Why, or why not?
2. In vv.1-4 we find seven disciples at the Sea of Galilee fishing. Some feel that their return to fishing indicates that they've lost their faith. Others feel that they're simply feeding themselves. What do you think?
3. In v.5 Jesus appears on the lakeshore and asks, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" How would you have felt if someone asked you the same question? How do they respond? How do you respond when Jesus asks you how you are doing?
4. In v.6 Jesus makes a suggestion: "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some (fish)." Why do you suppose they follow his advice, especially when it seems that they don't yet know who he is? How do you respond when Jesus offers you his advice?
5. In v.10 Jesus makes a request: "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." Does Jesus need their fish? Why do you suppose Jesus makes this request? How do you respond when Jesus asks you to contribute to the work he is doing?
6. In v.12 Jesus issues an invitation: "Come and have breakfast." What is the significance of this invitation? How would you have felt if you were invited? In what ways does Jesus offer a similar invitation to us today?
7. We're told in v.12 that "*None of the disciples dared ask (Jesus), 'Who are you?'*" Does this mean that they weren't sure this was Jesus? Do you think Jesus looked different than he had before the crucifixion? Why would they be afraid to ask?
8. In what ways has Jesus continued to reveal himself to you since you first came to know him? What are some ways that you can ensure that you remain open to his ongoing self-revelation?