

Kids Dismissal,

Welcome Guests...

App: 1) Connect Card - Two questions: How did you find out about RHC? How can we pray for you?
2) For everyone who calls RHC their church or would like to give a financial gift to help us shine the light of Jesus, you can also do that from our APP at the bottom of the home page.

Let's find John 21, as we continue with the second week of our **RESET SERIES SLIDE.**

I am praying for you to experience a season of spiritual reset as hear from Jesus and seek to follow him together. (Rw?)

Introduction: Pg. ____

I'm titling today's message: "ECHO!!!"

"Echo" John 21:1-14

We all know (know know) what an echo, echo, echo is, right?

An echo, echo, echo (ok, I'll stop.) is: a repetition of sound produced by the reflection of sound waves from another surface.

When I think about echoes, I think about my childhood... Empty gym. When you bounce a basketball on a hardwood floor in an empty gym, a beautiful echo reverberates off every wall. I can still hear that sound. I miss it!

Just like sounds, there are times when different experiences produce an echo effect in our lives. We find ourselves in similar situations and circumstances. We feel like we're receiving the same message, learning the same lesson, _____ for the second, the third, the twentieth time!

God, in his grace, fills our lives with Echo moments./moments of echo. Often he does so to grab our attention and invite us into a deeper relationship with him.

This is what we see in John 21.

John 21:1-14 (Text displayed)

1. Remember your assignment from Jesus. (21:1-6)

We now find the disciples back in Galilee, just as Jesus had instructed them (Matthew 28:10; Mark 14:28). Specifically, they were by the Sea of Tiberias, which is another name for the Sea of Galilee. This should not surprise us. Why? Because some of them were fishermen. They grew up on the Sea.

Don't miss the key word in verse 1, where John writes: "After this Jesus *REVEALED* himself again to the disciples." Last week we learned the first two requirements for a spiritual reset were (what?) - 1) Recognition (of our spiritual condition) *AND* a 2) Revelation (of Jesus Christ).

Here we go again... the disciples were about to experience another, unexpected encounter with Jesus. I believe the same will be true for you.

It happened in this way.

DISCIPLES FISHING

- Verse 2 tells us Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee (James and John, the author of this book), and two others were together, by the Sea, and...
- Peter says in verse 3: "I'm going fishing." To which the others say, "We're going with you."
- But... they had a really, really bad night on the water: "'That night they caught nothing."

The shift comes in verse 4: "Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know it was Jesus."

- As the sun is rising over the sea and birds are chirping above, Jesus yells (v. 8 tells us he's one hundred yards away): "Children, do you have any fish?"
- That's the question you don't really want to be asked after you put up a goose egg. :)
 - How did the test go? I bombed it.
 - Did you win the game? Got beat by 30
 - Oh, what did you do on your date Friday night? She stood me up.
 - "Hey guys, catch anything? {Smh} NO-THING..."
- But then, the stranger on the seashore offers some coaching in verse 6: "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some."
 - I can see the disciples... probably frustrated with no fish in the boat, probably a little defensive, "Hey, we're professional fishermen. We tried every trick in the book."
 - I wonder if they put the net down just to prove the person on the shore wrong, but when they cast their net into the water, verse 6 says, "they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish."

And in this moment, the disciples begin to hear a MASSIVE ECHO, from about three years earlier!

You say, "Tanner, what are you talking about?"

If we were press rewind and run the tape back three years earlier, we would find another moment with Jesus and the disciples on the Sea of Galilee. What were they doing? That's right. Fishing!

We find this account in **Luke 5:1-11**. Listen for the striking similarities between the stories.

Luke 5:1-11 (Text displayed)

"On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret (YET ANOTHER NAME FOR THE SEA OF GALILEE),² and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.³ Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat.⁴ And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking.⁷ They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken,¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.¹

¹ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. (2016). (Lk 5:1-11). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

Do you hear the echoes?

- Jesus was there by the Sea. Some scholars suggest this could have been the same stretch of Galilee's shore
- The Disciples fishing all night.
- The disciples catching nothing...
- Jesus saying, "Try again... Let down your nets."
- They pull in so many fish that their nets were breaking!
- And in that miraculous moment, there was a revelation of Jesus Christ.

I have no doubt Jesus set them up for this moment! Why?

- Verse 11 tells us, this was the moment Jesus first called them to follow him. This was the moment the left everything. This was the moment Jesus assigned them a *new mission*. You've been fishing for fish. :) I'm going to teach you how to catch people, bring people into my kingdom!
- This echo reminded them of their call to follow Christ and engage in his mission.
- Through a common experience of his power, this echo served as a moment of recommissioning.
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APP: Part of the RESET we need is a RESET in our assignment. This story invites all of us to Remember our assignment from Jesus. If you've been called to follow Jesus, you've been given an assignment. Catch people... Pull people into the kingdom of God.

- You been called, no less than they. It's time to fish.
- People need Jesus, and they need Jesus now.
- Who are you praying for? Who are you spending intentional time with? Who are you inviting to join you on Sundays? Who are you pointing to Jesus through simple spiritual conversations?

One of my biggest regrets in life is being too patient when it comes to pointing people to Jesus.

We're all about relational evangelism (telling someone the good news about Jesus). But as David Helm once said, "Relational evangelism is not evangelism at all until the word of God enters that relationship."

T: #1. Remember your assignment from Jesus. #2

2. Throw yourself headlong toward Jesus. (21:7-8)

Read vv. 7-8

STORY

- Here again John perceives first, "It is the Lord" (cf. 20:8), and Peter acts first (cf. 20:6-7). - Harris
- When John, who interestingly calls himself "the disciple whom Jesus loved" heard the echo, the undeniable similarities between what they just experienced and what happened 3 years earlier, the LIGHT BULB goes off... and he tells Peter: "It is the LORD!"
- When Peter heard that, he immediately wrapped his outer garment around him and threw himself into the water.
- Can you see him? He's so excited, so in love with Christ, so eager to be with him, as soon as John's words hit his ears (Jesus!), his heart explodes, and with one motion, he wraps his garment around him and with every fiber of power, he shoots himself into the water like an Olympic swimmer.
- Look at the wording at the end of verse 7: he "threw himself into the sea." Some translations say, "he cast himself..." "he plunged himself into the sea."

Why?

- He knew Jesus was the Christ.
- He knew Jesus was the Son of God.
- He knew Jesus was his Good Shepherd.
- He knew Jesus died for him and that death couldn't defeat him.
- He knew Jesus was his King and his greatest Friend.

We find few pictures that portray a greater devotion to Jesus.

- Jesus, if that is where you are, that is where I want to be!
- Jesus, nothing is going to stop me from being with you.
- Jesus, I want you, and I want you NOW!
- Did you see the heart of Peter as he throws himself headlong toward Jesus?
 - The urgency! No hesitation.
 - The passion! No reservation.
 - The holy impatience!
 - The complete disregard for the opinions of others! Peter was not held back by the chains of human opinion but compelled by the presence of divine love.
 - Call me crazy. Call me whatever you want. I'll do anything for him!

I pray this picture gets etched on your heart.

His passion is unreserved, unfiltered, unhindered. Peter holds nothing back.

Does this picture reveal the disposition of your heart? Are you holding anything back in your friendship with Jesus, or are you throwing yourself headlong into his heart!

Do you need a RESET of passion, a RESET of devotion? Some of the most convicting words in the Bible are found in Revelation 2:4 where Jesus says...

“But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.” (Revelation 2:4)

Let's get back to our first love. When there was no one you'd rather spend time with... when Jesus was your greatest priority... when you'd do anything for Jesus. When you were living on mission... When you didn't hold anything back... When you were so devoted you couldn't be captured by life's 1000 little distractions

T: Remember your assignment from Jesus. Throw yourself headlong toward Jesus, and finally...

3. Enjoy building intimacy with Jesus. (21:9-14)

Read 9-14

Story

- When they get to the shore, Jesus is waiting for them. He's prepared breakfast for them, and in this action we see so much of God's heart toward us.
- Verse 9: Jesus prepares a meal for them. He gathered the fire. He got the fish and bread. This is what friends do... Host. Practice hospitality.
- Verse 12: Jesus invites them. "Come and have breakfast." Notice who is inviting who. I said it last week, I'll say it again. God always takes the initiative. Our relationship is based on his love and grace.
- Verse 13: Jesus serves them. "Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish." We hear the echo of the upper room, the night before he was crucified. Jesus served his disciples the Passover Meal and told them the bread and the wine represent the covenant of his

sacrifice for them. And just before he served them the meal, he shocked them by serving them in the most humble manner, by washing their feet.

- And notice his inclusive style in verse 10: “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” We’re sharing this together!! He had 153 options... highlighting the amazing amount of fish in their miraculous haul.
- In most cultures around the world, even our own, but especially in first century Israel, to share a meal was to extend friendship. To share a meal was an invitation to share your heart.

I am thrilled to tell you today... Jesus is the same God today. Jesus is inviting us to intimacy with him. He is still preparing breakfast for you on the shore. He is still saying, “Come and have a seat. Let’s enjoy some together. Let’s share our hearts!”

He just wants to be with you! Can you say the same?

Maybe it’s time for a RESET. A RESET of enjoyment! To truly know Jesus is to want more of Jesus, more time, more understanding, more experiences with him. To truly know Jesus is to enjoy building intimacy with him.

This has been our vision focus as a church in 2021. If you are new to Redemption Hill, it is a great time to join us in this pursuit.

We are collectively pursuing...

2021 Vision: 1,000,000 Minutes with God

Invest at least 1% of your day (15 minutes) in focused, face to face time with God.

Don’t miss those key words...

- Focused. Get to a quiet spot. Set aside the distractions. Find uninterrupted time to get...
- Face to face: This is about a real, vibrant relationship. When we pray, when we read the Bible, when we sing songs of praise, we are not performing a ritual, we are enjoying a relationship.
- With God! How wild is this? God is willing to associate with you. He’s already got time with you on his calendar. The only question is whether or not we will show up!

How comfortable are you sitting with Jesus?

I can tell you this: There are a lot of things I regret in my life, but I have never regretted one minute of time spent with God. I have never regretted the times 30 minutes lingered to 45, 45 to 60... The best meals are not rushed!

I have never regretted setting the alarm clock for 5:15 (or whatever time is necessary), I mean it was a little painful at first, it required some adjustments, some RESETTING of priorities. SET YOUR ALARM.

Somebody needs to hear this today: If you are so busy that you can’t find time with God, you’re too busy.

But listen... here’s the beautiful part... as we spend this focused, face to face time with Jesus, we will become more and more like him. As we connect to his heart, our hearts increasingly reflect his heart. As Jesus pours his love into us, we will pour his love into others!

I have loved seeing this happen in our church this year. I have loved hearing the stories: I’ve never spent consistent time with God until this year. I love seeing people more in love with God.

I want to invite one of those people to join me on stage... MEL ABRUZESE

In light of Mel's story... there's one more truth we shouldn't miss. We get to enjoy building intimacy with Jesus with others. It wasn't just Jesus and Peter. It was Jesus and Peter and James and John and Nathanael and Thomas and two others...

How comfortable are you sitting with Jesus with others?

This is why we have Groups at RHC. This is why I want to encourage you to visit one of our Groups this week!

And don't just bring some bread. Bring your heart! Don't just hangout... hang out with a spiritual vision. Bring some truth, bring some prayer, bring some deep conversation about things that *really* matter.

Conclusion:

As we wrap up our time in God's word today, I want to encourage you!!

The Point: Let the echo of God's love bring you back to the love you had at first.

He loves you. He's reassigning. He's inviting. He's saying - throw yourself headlong, no regard for any consequence.

We're about to sing a dangerous prayer... Here it is... "Refine me. Take whatever you desire... Burn anything away that is not from you. Cleanse my hands, purify my heart. I want to burn for you!"

PRAY.