

"Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. And He said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes." *John 21:5-6 KJV*



Net fishing is hard work. The disciples had probably taken shifts rowing, letting out, and pulling the nets. They had toiled all night, and come up empty. Someone from shore had called out, Have you any meat? This stranger told them to cast their nets on the right side of the ship. Suddenly they were overwhelmed with fish. Can you imagine the reaction of the tired men as they struggled to draw the net? They were in the right place, doing the right thing to catch fish. Fishing at night or in low light conditions is sometimes more productive for net fishing because the net does not cast as deep a shadow. Sometimes we're doing the right thing in the right place, but we're casting our net in the wrong spot. When we cast on the Master's command in the spot He directs, we'll hardly be able to contain the provisions. If they had waited for the Lord, instead of going fishing they could have had a good night's rest and a boatload of fish. Instead, they were tired cold and hungry from their fruitless toil. Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it. We could learn a lesson about waiting on God. We may very well be sent to where we are, but until the Lord commands us, we should Be still! When it is time, God will direct us to the labour. The nice part of the story is, even though they had toiled amiss, God still provided for them, and while they were working, Jesus prepared food for them. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved (John) saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him and did cast himself into the sea. And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes. As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread. Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught. Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken. Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. Father is always looking out for our welfare; preparing ahead the provision we'll need even when we labor amiss!

We often struggle here below,
By doing what we should not do,
If we but wait the Master's call,
We'll have the strength to do it all. ~CGP

We are Christ's followers only if He leads. You cannot follow if you're running ahead. He alone knows the path we should take. We need to trust our Guide's leadership and timing. If the disciples had gone some place other than directed, there would have been no blessing or provision at all. Know God's Word and obey it and all your decisions will be right!

*"Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD."
Psalms 27:14 KJV*