

Breakthrough... Expect the Best

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Middletown
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Scripture

John 21:4-8, 15-17 (NRSV)

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the 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."

Breakthrough concept:

Discussion Questions

1. What's the difference between optimism and expecting the best?
2. How does the life of Jesus inspire you to "expect the best?"
3. How might "expecting the best" impact your decision making?
4. Who in your life has expected the best from you? Who can you encourage by expecting the best from them?
5. Are you still hopeful? What kind of world do you dream of?
6. What specific things will you do to apply what you've learned?

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Group Life @ Middletown

If you are interested in taking part in a sermon-based discussion group or other small group, visit middletownchristian.org or contact Tracey Spann, tspann@middletownchristian.org to learn more.

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