



# SERMON NOTES

**SEASONS – A SEASON TO CHOOSE - PASTOR PETER May 18 2025**

## **Joshua 24:14,15**

"So fear the LORD and serve Him wholeheartedly. Put away forever the idols your ancestors worshiped when they lived beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD alone. But if you refuse to serve the LORD, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD."

### **1. Choose God's Plan**

**John 21:1,2** "Later, Jesus appeared again to the disciples beside the Sea of Galilee. This is how it happened. Several of the disciples were there - Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples."

**John 21:3** "Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' 'We'll come, too,' they all said. So they went out in the boat, but they caught nothing all night."

**Exodus 4:1-3** "But Moses protested again, 'What if they won't believe me or listen to me? What if they say, 'The LORD never appeared to you?' Then the LORD asked him, 'What is that in your hand?' 'A shepherd's staff,' Moses replied. 'Throw it down on the ground,' the LORD told him. So Moses threw down the staff, and it turned into a snake! Moses jumped back."



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**Matthew 4:19** "Come, follow Me..."

**Isaiah 43:7** "Bring all who claim Me as their God, for I have made them for My glory. It was I who created them."

**1 Corinthians 10:31** "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

"A life directed chiefly toward the fulfillment of personal desires will sooner or later always lead to bitter disappointment" **Albert Einstein**



## Reflection Questions:

1. In what ways do we sometimes return to our "nets" or old routines instead of stepping into God's plan?
2. What might it look like for you to actively pursue God's plan for your life, even when His presence feels distant?
3. Are there any areas in your life where you've lost sight of your purpose? What's one small step you can take this week to realign with God's call?

## 2. Choose God's Strength

**John 21:4-6** "At dawn Jesus was standing on the beach, but the disciples couldn't see who He was. He called out, 'Fellows, have you caught any fish?' 'No,' they replied. Then He



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said, 'Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you'll get some!' So they did, and they couldn't haul in the net because there were so many fish in it."

**Psalms 28:7** "The LORD is my strength and my shield; I trust Him with all my heart."

**Psalms 118:14** "The LORD is my strength and my song; He has given me victory."

**Isaiah 40:31** "But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength."

**Philippians 4:13** "For I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength."

1.

## Reflection Questions:

1. Where in your life are you trying to operate in your own strength rather than relying on God?
2. Can you think of a time when you followed God's direction and saw a breakthrough? What did you learn from it?
3. How can you remind yourself daily to ask for God's strength, especially in the ordinary or exhausting parts of life?

**3. Choose God's Presence**



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**John 21:7** "Then the disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It's the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his tunic (for he had stripped for work), jumped into the water, and headed to shore."

## Recognition

Luke 5:4-6 "When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, 'Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish.' 'Master,' Simon replied, 'we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again.' And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear!"

## Abandon

### Reflection Questions:

1. What helps you recognize God's presence in your life, especially during uncertain times?
2. Are there things in your life that keep you from "jumping in" and fully pursuing Jesus?
3. What does "responding with abandon" look like in your relationship with God right now?

## 4. Choose God's Embrace

**John 21:10,11** "Bring some of the fish you've just caught,' Jesus said. So Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore. There were 153 large fish, and yet the net hadn't torn."



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**John 21:9** "When they got there, they found breakfast waiting for them - fish cooking over a charcoal fire, and some bread."

## What We Have

## Who We Are

**Revelation 3:20** "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear My voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends."



## Reflection Questions:

1. What is something you have (a gift, time, resource) that God may be inviting you to offer Him?
2. Do you struggle with the idea that God fully accepts and embraces you as you are? Why or why not?
3. How does knowing that Jesus wants relationship (not just performance) change the way you approach your faith?