


GOSPEL OF JOHN

CH 21



THE RISEN JESUS

EPILOGUE

HE SHOWED HIMSELF

John 21:1, 5, 12, 14 || Though the story ended in John 20, here we have a special “epilogue” where Jesus is *showing Himself*. He is showing rather than telling.

He is showing them where they stand with Him: “Children!” // “Kiddos”

He is showing them (again) that His resurrection *is a bodily resurrection!*

He is showing His invitation to *participate in His kingdom, His mission.*

Dig Deeper: John 15

WHERE THEY STAND

John 21:15-17 || Jesus asks Peter: Do you “**agapao**” me? Peter says, you know that I “**phileo**” you. Both are words for “**love**” in Greek. For centuries, scholars have debated the differences (or lack thereof) of these two words in the New Testament. John (as a writer moved by the Holy Spirit) tends to use these words interchangeably. We do not have enough evidence to declare a difference, and the lack of consensus among Christians is a strong indicator to *not* attempt to make one!

Instead, what should we focus upon? **Jesus is showing them where they stand.** He is showing them where Peter stands! Peter had denied Jesus three times. And so Jesus now asks Peter three times if he loves Him, and what that will mean for Peter.

If you ever wonder **where YOU stand with God**, remember that it NEVER depends upon your love or faithfulness to Him, but upon His love for you, which is a wonderful, never-stopping, never-giving-up, unbreaking, always-and-forever kind of love.

Dig Deeper: John 1:43, 8:12, 10:27, 12:26, 13:36-38, 1 John 4