

ZERO MY HERO

Sunday 2/24/19 – Dustin Pennington

OPENING PASSAGE:

John 21:1-14

After these things Jesus manifested Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and He manifested *Himself* in this way. ² Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the *sons* of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will also come with you.” They went out and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing.

⁴ But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ So Jesus said to them, “Children, you do not have any fish, do you?” They answered Him, “No.” ⁶ And He said to them, “Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat and you will find a *catch*.” So they cast, and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great number of fish. ⁷ Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord.” So when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put his outer garment on (for he was stripped *for work*), and threw himself into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the little boat, for they were not far from the land, but about one hundred yards away, dragging the net *full* of fish.

⁹ So when they got out on the land, they saw a charcoal fire *already* laid and fish placed on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish which you have now caught.” ¹¹ Simon Peter went up and drew the net to land, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come *and* have breakfast.” None of the disciples ventured to question Him, “Who are You?” knowing that it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave *it* to them, and the fish likewise. ¹⁴ This is now the third time that Jesus was manifested to the disciples, after He was raised from the dead.

ZERO MY HERO

Sunday 2/24/19 – Dustin Pennington

I. What's Right

- A. They were doing what they supposed to do.
 - 1. They were fisherman – fisherman fish!
 - 2. They had said “yes” to their calling/vocation
- B. They were equipped with what they needed.
 - 1. Boats, Nets, Bait, etc....
 - 2. They had said “yes” to the equipment.
- C. They were where they supposed to be.
 - 1. Out on the Lake
 - 2. They had said “yes” to the location
- D. They were with the right people
 - 1. Peter, Thomas, Nathaniel and the other disciples in the second boat
 - 2. They had said yes to the right community.
- E. All the boxes were checked BUT it was fruitless

II. What's Wrong

- A. They did it in the flesh.

2 Chronicles 32:8

With him *is* an arm of flesh; but with us *is* the Lord our God, to help us and to fight our battles.” And the people were strengthened by the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

Jeremiah 17:5

Thus says the Lord “Cursed *is* the man who trusts in man
And makes flesh his strength,

- B. They caught ZERO

- 1. We can work ourselves to exhaustion and be completely ineffective.

ZERO MY HERO

Sunday 2/24/19 – Dustin Pennington

Psalm 127:1

Unless the Lord builds the house,
They labor in vain who build it;
Unless the Lord guards the city,
The watchman stays awake in vain.

2. The score was 153 to Zero

III. What could have been?

A. Grace

1. They only needed to cast once. We waste so much time and energy striving when we are not operating in grace
2. The Score: God: 153 Flesh: 0
3. Everyone wants to be a hero not realizing they are a zero
4. Zero my Hero / join Team Zero
5. We have zero purchasing power

Isaiah 55:1-3

“Ho! Everyone who thirsts,
Come to the waters;
And you who have no money,
Come, buy and eat.
Yes, come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without price.
² Why do you spend money for *what is* not bread,
And your wages for *what* does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to Me, and eat *what is* good,
And let your soul delight itself in abundance.
³ Incline your ear, and come to Me.
Hear, and your soul shall live;

Notice the Net was not torn:

John 21:11

Simon Peter went up and drew the net to land, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not torn.

ZERO MY HERO

Sunday 2/24/19 – Dustin Pennington

We tend to live this way:

Haggai 1:5-6

⁵ Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: “Consider your ways! ⁶ “You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages *to put* into a bag with holes.”

B. Intimacy

1. They were serving without Intimacy
2. We all want “to do” His will, but did you know “you are” His will?
3. Our depth of effective ministry will depend on our depth of intimacy
4. Compare the effectiveness of Mary’s Prayer and Martha’s Prayer
5. We are invited to Live and Lead from the Feet of Jesus

IV. What does it look like?

Isaiah 40:27-31

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
And speak, O Israel:
“My way is hidden from the Lord,
And my just claim is passed over by my God”?

²⁸ Have you not known?
Have you not heard?
The everlasting God, the Lord,
The Creator of the ends of the earth,
Neither faints nor is weary.
His understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the weak,

ZERO MY HERO

Sunday 2/24/19 – Dustin Pennington

And to *those who have* no might He increases strength.

³⁰ Even the youths shall faint and be weary,

And the young men shall utterly fall,

³¹ But those who wait on the Lord

Shall renew *their* strength;

They shall mount up with wings like eagles,

They shall run and not be weary,

They shall walk and not faint.