

May 15, 2023 Meditation

Perception

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name (John 20:30–31).

Have you ever pondered what these "other signs" were? Did Jesus raise more from the dead? Did He continue to heal the sick? I've always wondered if He ever made water into wine again, or if that was just once, a special blessing for the couple who were venturing out in a new covenant with one another through marriage.

Chapter 21 goes on to speak about the disciples He appeared to by the Sea of Tiberius. After Jesus appeared to the disciples and Thomas in Matthew 28:7, they returned to Galilee. Peter decided to go fishing, and six other disciples chose to go with him. While they are out fishing, Jesus arrived on the shore. They fished all night and caught nothing. From the shore, Jesus told them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat, and then there were so many fish they could not haul them all in.

John says, "Look its Jesus!" Peter put on his outer garment and threw himself into the sea to get to Jesus faster than the boat. Why would you put on your shirt then jump in the water? Nonetheless, here is Peter rushing to Jesus.

Jesus' perspective enabled the men to catch a boat load of fish (literally). John's perception of it being Jesus enabled Peter to jump out to greet Jesus. What about God's perception of us? Who are we through God's eyes?

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin (1 John 1:7). Through the blood of Jesus, God sees us as cleansed, as perfect. What a beautiful sight to be seen as clean and holy.

We are able to perceive the works of Jesus through God's Word. We are able to be cleansed by Jesus' blood through faith. We are able to show the rest of the world God's love, so they may perceive Jesus through our actions of love and compassion enabled by the Holy Spirit.

Perception
Written by Kayla Winkler
Published by Lutheran Women's Missionary League Texas District
Christian Life Committee, 2023

Perception 1