

GOD IS KING - JESUS FILLS OUR EMPTINESS

In our gospel this weekend we find an empty boat, something was missing. The apostles had set out in the boat, but they set out without Jesus. Isn't that sometimes the case with all of us? We want to trust in ourselves, we don't want to have to rely on God. Yet, at the same time, deep down we really do want to rely on God. We want to know that someone is in charge, that all these wayward paths converge upon a goal. But, far too often we get confused and turn to what we're most comfortable with. The apostles do exactly that. They go fishing, but they are fishing without the Lord and so they don't catch anything. Sometimes God allows our bestlaid plans to come crashing down around us. He doesn't do this to torment us, but to teach us to trust in him. Their embarrassment and frustration must have been overwhelming. Fishermen tend to be proud of their skill set, and when they're skunked it's humiliating. Then, to make matters worse, Jesus shows up on the shore and asks if they've caught anything. This is like rubbing salt in an open wound. You can only imagine the way they growled, "no, we haven't caught anything," in response while probably thinking to themselves, "and mind your own business." The apostles needed to recognize their own weakness. They needed to vocalize their own inability to do anything without Jesus, and when they do that, Jesus acts. It is the same for us when we give our lives over to Jesus and recognize our need for him. He fills our emptiness with his friendship and gives us meaning and purpose, by filling our lives with His wonder and His love.

God bless,
Deacon John