Breakfast with the Lord

Read John 21:1-22

This is such a simple, natural scene--real people in a relaxed setting. Jesus is there on the shore, resurrected and very real. But we see no flashes of light, no walking through walls. He's just squatting on the ground, quietly cooking breakfast over an open fire. It's a modest meal, eaten with close, comfortable friends.

Jesus is present, face-to-face.

He helps with their work. It's common, daily labor. But He blesses it, and what had been frustrating is now rewarding.

He provides for their daily needs and shares average moments with them.

That's where I need Jesus in my life: across the breakfast table; on my job; helping me through the long nights of frustration; providing for the needs that keep coming day by day. His presence is the most real and meaningful to me in the daily routine.

But it's also where I hear His probing question:

Do you truly love me more than these?

And I hear echoes of His command and promise:

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things [food, clothing, life's necessities] will be given to you as well. (Matthew 6:33, NIV)

I get so preoccupied with my own concerns. I think that if this one need were met, I would be happy. But Jesus calls me to seek Him first, His kingdom and His righteousness, resting all my needs with the Father.

I long for each of my relationships to be everything I dream it should be. He calls me to simply love everyone around me, unselfishly, with practical kindness.

On the job, my concern is to achieve that one desired area of service. He calls me to glorify Him no matter where He puts me. He asks that I feed His sheep in whatever assignment I face.

There He is, across the table. He hands me my daily provisions. I face Him as I face my day. Can I tell Him I love Him more than anything else, right here and now? That is what His eyes ask. That is what He seeks of me.

And as I spend time with Him, how can I help but say, Yes, Lord . . . I love you. (John 21:15, NIV)

Hymn: It's So Good to Be with You

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