

## “Students Worshiping an Awesome God”

John 21:1-14

April 14, 2013

Rev. Jeong Park

Fair Oaks United Methodist Church

I want to thank our youth for sharing your great stories and wonderful experiences. I would like to give my special thanks to our youth’s parents, teachers and Bob for your great work and support to our young people’s ministry in this church. You are awesome!

In our Scripture reading, Jesus asked his disciples, “Good morning, did you catch anything for breakfast?” If Jesus is here with us, he will challenge us with this question, “Good morning, Fair Oaks Church, what did you catch for people’s lives? What difference are you making for your neighborhood and the world?” Jesus continues to challenge us saying, “Throw your net off the side of the boat and see what happens.” Let’s pay attention to Jesus’ advice. “Throw your net! Cast your vision to the future!” As Jesus encouraged his disciples to cast their net, he tells us to keep moving, working and casting our net without fear. Dare to dream; Don’t be afraid; Do not stop nor give up; Cast your net with confidence and trust and see what happens. Church is not only a place of fellowship, but also a place for God’s mission. We are called to do God’s mission and to make a difference through our hands and feet.

Look around the wall in our sanctuary. Each committee and ministry team displays our church’s mission today. I hope you have an opportunity to learn more about our ministries and works after church service. Today we have seen how our youth ministry is preparing to become disciples and cast their nets for the future.

Do you remember a quote that the Red Queen made to Alice in Wonderland Lewis Carroll’s *Through the Looking-Glass*? Her explanation of the nature of Wonderland, she said, “**Now here, you see, it takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place.**” I believe this will apply to our church’s context. In order to prepare our future, we continue to move and work reaching out to our young generation. Otherwise, we will stay in the same place and will be left behind. So let’s keep focused on that goal and continue to move forward in Jesus Christ. Amen.