

**I. Do You? - John 21:15-17**

1. After they had eaten (**verse 15**)
    - do you love me?
    - “more than these”
      - more than these other disciples - in comparison
      - was Jesus subtly rebuking people for his arrogance in claiming not to let Jesus down?
      - “these” may mean Peter’s boat and his past career of fishing
  2. You know I love you
  3. “Feed my lambs” - take care of my lambs - the dependence of new believers is meant by “lambs”
  4. A second time (**verse 16**)
    - if you do feed my sheep
  5. A third time (**verse 17**)
    - if you do feed my sheep
    - Peter was “grieved”
  6. Jesus knew that Peter really did love Him
- Rea        - then why the questions?
- Rea        -He helps him get over... and gives him his assignment
- Rea        -IF you love me then take care of these, my sheep

**Rea        Ideas and Questions:**

1. Pastoring means taking care of Jesus’ sheep
  - their “care” does not just mean “feed” them a good sermon/ theology, etc
2. Two fronts... recapture Peter
  - then hand off of His little lambs to their new leader
3. On the surface... Jesus did not just say good riddance to Peter, He put him to work - he gave Peter the thing that was most precious to Him, His people

**II. Will You? - John 21:18-19**

1. Verily, verily - truly (**verse 18**)
  - this is certainly a “truth”
  - when you were young, you were able to take care of yourself - that will one day change
2. He shares what death Peter would experience (**verse 19**)
  - but he would glorify God until the end
3. A short direct instruction - “Follow me”
  - consider the cost but follow

**Rea        Ideas and Questions:**

1. Things are gonna change... but “follow me” does not change
2. Keep counting the cost and paying it
3. What does one do after he has failed his lord - “follow me”

**III. What About...? John 21: 20-23**

1. What about him? (John) (**verse 20-21**)

- 2. Its tempting to focus on someone else and God's work for them to do
  - especially if we're on the spot
- Rea
  - in Peter's case, he'd failed
- 3. What is it to you? (**Verse 22**)
- Rea
  - will do anything to get the attention off of him
- 4. "Follow THOU me"
- Rea
  - its common to get our eyes off the task Jesus has given us and onto those others who may, or may not be doing the right thing
- 5. Something developed from this (**verse 23**)
  - the idea that he would not die
  - Jesus was just pulling Peter's attention back to his own task
- Rea    **Ideas and Questions:**
  - 1. So, I'm to be focused on MY task for Jesus - so, what IS your task for Jesus?
  - 2. If you focus on others (like this) you TOO will become critical of what they are doing or not for Jesus
  - 3. Discuss a time/ times that you too failed Jesus and how Jesus "got you back"
  - 4. Failure is not a reason for you to not be serving Jesus
  - 5. When we fail Jesus we are so guilt-ridden we often quit

Jere Philips - SS Lesson for May 28, 2023