

Homework & Questions

Sermon Series: Made Alive - To Love God
John 21

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Pleasant Valley Church
September 20, 2015

Read John 21

1. How did this week's message impact you? What challenged you? What questions did it raise? What confused you?

2. After denying Jesus three times at the crucifixion, Peter now returned to his old trade – fishing (vs.3). What state of mind do you think Peter was in at that time? Peter had just spent several glorious years in the shadow of Christ, why would he want to go back to fishing?

3. Can you remember a time when you sinned and your failure caused you to want to go back to your old life?

What and/or who drew you back to Jesus?

4. In **John 21:15-17**, Jesus asked Peter three times, "Do you love Me?" In verse 15, why did Jesus ask Peter, "Do you love me **more than these**?"

What could "**these**" have represented for Peter? (His self-sufficiency, other people, his old fishing trade, his boat, his nets)

What if Jesus asked you, "Do you love me more than **these**;" what might "**these**" represent for you?

Jesus wanted Peter to establish in his own heart that he truly loved Him. Have there been times when you had to establish in your heart that you loved Jesus above all else?

5. **Read Deuteronomy 6:5 & Matthew 22:36-37**. What is the greatest commandment?

6. After each time Peter affirmed his love for Jesus in **John 21**, what did Jesus tell Peter to do?

What should be the result of our love for Jesus?

7. Read **John 14:15-17**. How can we know that we love God, even when we fall short as Peter did? In His Grace, who does God provide for us as our Helper?

Application: Obedience is the proof of our love for God. Have you been resisting doing something that you know God is asking of you? Just like Peter, what choice do you first have to make in your heart? This week, are you willing to obey God and do one thing He is asking you to do?

Further reading: John 14:15-17; 2 Corinthians 5:14; Philippians 1:9 & 2:12-14; I John 3:18