
Unfinished Business

JOHN 21

Lean In

1. Have you ever been kicked off the team, out of a club, out of the house or out of school? Why?

Look Down

Read John 21:1-19

2. In John 20:30, John states that "Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples." In light of Jesus' resurrection and these miracles, why do you think the disciples went fishing? What is the significance of their not catching a single fish?
3. This is the second miraculous catch of fish. When did the first occur? What connection is there between these events? What may Jesus be teaching his disciples by re-enacting this miracle?
4. Look carefully at Jesus' question to Peter in v. 15. To whom or what do you think Jesus is referring when He says "these"? Why do you think Jesus asked Peter three questions?
5. After each of Peter's answers, Jesus gives Peter a command. At first glance they all look the same. However, look carefully at the three commands. What is the first? the second? the third? Do they mean the same thing or are they different? If different, what is that difference? Why do you think Jesus gives Peter a command at this stage in in life?
6. What is Peter's response? How does it differ from Peter's earlier statements (Matt. 26:33 & John 13:37)?
7. Why would Jesus single out Peter for this discussion? What is the significance of Jesus' asking Peter the same question three times? Why does this upset Peter?
8. How did Jesus' final call ("follow me") differ from His first call of Peter?

Look Out

9. Think of an example of somebody God restored to His service after they've blown it. What happened?

Look In

10. What is the closest you have come to blowing it so badly that you thought God was never going to speak or use you again? What did you discover about God in that experience?
11. Despite Peter's denials and failures, Jesus chooses to restore him and not replace him. What can we learn from this passage about the steps involved in restoring a Christian who has sinned?
12. Is there an area of unfinished business in your life that Jesus wants to revisit, not to shame you, but to restore you?
13. How does it help to know that you can still serve and glorify God no matter what your past failures have been?

14. If you were Peter, how would the encounter in John 21 shape your ministry?