



CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER: PETER [John 21:1-19]

What do Jesus' last four conversations with His disciples [recorded in the Gospel of John] teach us about how much God loves us and the priorities we should have as His children?

1. AFFIRMATION [JOHN 20:19-23]

Jesus and His Disciples - Peace/Joy/Spirit/Mission

2. RECONCILIATION [JOHN 20:24-29]

Jesus and Thomas - Patience/Insight/Gentleness

3. PROFUSION [JOHN 21:1-8]

Jesus and the Disciples - Affection/Blessing/Pursuit

4. REDEMPTION [JOHN 21:9-19]

Jesus and Peter - Grace [charcoal fire]/Mission

A wrong view of God leads inevitably to a failure to enjoy and grow in His grace. Failure to appreciate His love, His kindness and generous heart leads eventually to a life which bears no fruit and makes no progress. The lesson is clear: if you want to grow in grace, learn what grace is. Taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8). - Sinclair Ferguson

Discussion Questions

1. Read about a previous fishing trip in Luke 5:1-11. Based on that story, what can we learn from Peter and the other disciples' decision to go fishing once more? [Life Connections Study Bible]
2. Look back at Peter's denial of Jesus in John 18:15-18. Why was it significant that Jesus made a "charcoal fire" in John 21? [LCSB]
3. Read John 21:15-19. How would you answer Jesus' question, "Do you love me?" How have you been restored from the failures of your past?" [LCSB]
4. Pray thanking God for restoring you from the failures of your past, and praise Him for the grace that sustains all of us as we journey together as imperfect people.
5. Send a card or a text to someone who is struggling, and remind them that God loves them no matter what.

JESUS AND THE SEVEN DISCIPLES [THE MIRACLE]

John 21:1-8 After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ² Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "**Children, do you have any fish?**" They answered him, "**No.**" ⁶ He said to them, "**Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.**" So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "**It is the Lord!**" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸ The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

JESUS AND PETER [INTERSECTION OF REDEMPTION]

John 21:9-19

⁹ When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "**Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.**" ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "**Come and have breakfast.**" Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after He was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "**Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?**" He said to him, "**Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.**" He said to him, "**Feed my lambs.**" ¹⁶ He said to him a second time, "**Simon, son of John, do you love me?**" He said to him, "**Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.**" He said to him, "**Tend my sheep.**" ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "**Simon, son of John, do you love me?**" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "**Do you love me?**" and he said to him, "**Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.**" Jesus said to him, "**Feed my sheep.**" ¹⁸ **Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.** ¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."