

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

FEED MY SHEEP - JOHN 21

BIBLE STUDY



In this final chapter of John, we are focusing on Peter. We saw Peter denying friendship with Jesus at the time of his trial, but we know he went on to be a leader of the early church.

John allows us to see a key conversation with Jesus which turned things around.

Read John 21

At the start of this chapter, the disciples are out fishing. Of course, this is the profession that Jesus called many of the disciples out of to follow him three years before.

Look at Luke 5 : 1-11

- What differences do we see between Peter's initial encounter with Jesus at the shores of the lake, and the one described in **verses 1-8 of John 21**?

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Looking over verses 1-14:

- What do you think John would like us to understand from the miraculous sign of fish, and also from how Jesus interacted with his disciples?
- How is this first part of **chapter 21** related to what Jesus talks to Peter about next?
- Have there been times when you have plunged ahead with something without including Jesus, only to later realise the importance of including him *(or the significance of not including him...)?*

Jesus asks Peter three times if he loves him – no doubt echoing the three-fold denial.

- How does Jesus ask Peter to show his expressed love?
- Do you think only those called as leaders are called to 'feed sheep'? Or do you think this is something for every Christian believer?



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We saw in last week's study that Jesus' death is a key theme throughout John's gospel. Now Jesus talks to Peter about Peter's future death, in a way which seems startling and almost callous to our 21st century minds.

- Why do you think Jesus did this?
- **Look at John 12:25** where Jesus was teaching about the perspective we should have on life and death.

Why is it so hard for us to live this way? What changes could we make to view our earthly lives from an eternal perspective?



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Look at the exchange between Jesus and Peter when Peter looks back and notices John following them (verses 20-22).

- When might we 'do a Peter' and look around at others, rather than focussing on what Jesus has asked us to do? What might Jesus say to challenge us? (v.22)?

The last verses of John remind us of the importance of 'testimony' and witness in this gospel.

- Why is our testimony today as believers so important?
- Do you know each other's testimonies of faith in your home group? Can you find a time when you can hear more about each other's faith story?



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THINK & PRAY



As we finish this series, pause to reflect:

- What has been of most impact to you as we have looked at these studies in John over recent weeks?
- What truths about Jesus have you learned or been reminded of?