

05/17/20

## John Chapter 21: 1-19

**Introduction:** What you can see on the screen is the restoration of a coffee table from the thrift store. It was being thrown away because it was in a very bad shape.



Today is the 5th Sunday of Easter and John chapter 21 is one of the most interesting post-Resurrection stories of restoration.

Of all the people YOU KNOW in the Bible, which one would you identify with?

**John Chapter 21:1-19** talks about Simon Peter whom Jesus gave him a powerful RESTORATION after failing to fulfill his wild and wonderful promise. He gave Jesus wonderful promises and only to fall short in the moment of truth, when he betrayed him and denied him three times.

Today, before you criticize Peter, walk a mile in his shoes so that you can feel what he felt.

Our lesson for today begins with a scene of a worn-out fisherman and ending the night with a disappointment. Suddenly a stranger appears and gives them advice on how they ought to fish. What he says does not make sense, but they do it anyway and suddenly their nets are full. And as if that is not enough reason to assure them of the Lord's presence, Jesus invites them to the side of the lake where he has prepared a meal with bread and fish, cooked over a charcoal fire.

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. (John 21:15-17 NIV)

Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me?" Three times Peter responds, "Lord, you know I love you".

This conversation between Jesus and Peter remind us of two critical events:

1. It reminds us of the restoration of Peter, who had denied Jesus 3 times in front of the High Priest.
2. It reminds of the renewal of the sacred task that Jesus had given to his disciples to go to the whole world and make disciples of all nations.

**Conclusion:** We might have failed in our discipleship. We might have messed up our relationship with God and with others. But like Peter, we can be restored.