

## LIFE IN HIM

Andy Deane · 10/09/2022 · John 21

Reading of God's grace to Peter gives us all hope that God can restore us after our major failures in life.

### HOW GOD HELPS US IN RESTORATION:

#### John 21:1-7 = God's Grace — Before Restoration

<sup>1</sup> Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: <sup>2</sup> Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. <sup>3</sup> "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. <sup>4</sup> Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. <sup>6</sup> He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. <sup>7</sup> Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.

#### #1 He won't let life feel satisfying

- "I'm going out to fish"...they caught nothing (21:3)
- Even what we are good at won't be satisfying apart from Jesus.
- John 15:5, Jesus said, "Apart from me you can do nothing"

#### #2 He loves you all the same

- Go and tell his disciples & Peter, "He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him..." (Mark 16:7)
- Peter may have felt unworthy, but He was still on God's team.

#### #3 He reveals Himself to you

- Jesus stood on the shore.. (21:4) Peter jumped into the water (21:7)
- Don't linger in your sin. It's a dark/sad place to be. Be quick to repent.
- Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. <sup>7</sup> Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. (Isaiah 55:6-7)

#### John 21:8-17 = God's Grace — During Restoration

<sup>8</sup> The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. <sup>9</sup> When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead. <sup>15</sup> 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." <sup>16</sup> 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." <sup>17</sup> 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."

#### #4 He heals your broken memories

- saw a fire of burning coals (21:9)
- The last time we read of burning coals was at Peter's denial of Jesus.

- Jesus is changing the association of that memory to be connected to the mercy & love of Jesus!

#### #5 He offers opportunities for faithfulness

- *Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. (21:10-11)*
- Small obedience conditions us for bigger moments of obedience.

#### #6 He extends His friendship

- *come and have breakfast (21:12)*
- It’s often this lack of time with God that leads to our weakness.

#### #7 He gives you patience to wait

- *This was now the third time Jesus appeared (21:14)*
- I imagine Peter wished the first 2 times he saw Jesus this would have happened, but restoration takes time.

#### #8 He helps you endure a painful process

- *“do you love me more than these?” (21:15)*
- Remember, he was previously overconfident in himself: *“Even if all fall away, I will not” (Mark 14:29)*
- Part of restoration is realizing our weakness and becoming humble.
- *Peter was hurt cause Jesus asked him a 3rd time (21:17)*
- Peter knows he denied the Lord 3x and the Lord is giving him an opportunity to confess his love 3x.

### **John 21:18-25 = God’s Grace — After Restoration**

<sup>18</sup> *Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.* <sup>19</sup> *Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”* <sup>20</sup> *Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”)* <sup>21</sup> *When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?”* <sup>22</sup> *Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.”* <sup>23</sup> *Because of this, the rumor spread among the believers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?”* <sup>24</sup> *This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.* <sup>25</sup> *Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.*

#### #9 He will sustain you all your life

- *Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. (21:19)*
- Peter probably wondered, “will I deny Jesus again?”
- Jesus’ response is actually an encouragement. In the end, you’ll be so faithful you’ll die a martyr!

#### #10 He still has good plans for you

- *Peter saw him & asked, “Lord, what about him?” (21:21)*
- Don’t wonder what life would be like if you didn’t sin.
- Be grateful for what you have & move forward with Jesus and walk toward restoration.
- We have to stop comparing our life to others.
- The cure to prevent the spread of that toxic thought is: *“what is that to you? You must follow me” (21:22)*
- *I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you & not to harm you... (Jeremiah 29:11)*

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 Invite a friend next week to our *Win the War in Your Mind* series on anxiety, depression & lies the enemy tells us.