

Do You Love Me?

Description

John 21:15-19

Peter had been having a tough time since the night of the crucifixion. No doubt, during the three years he and the other disciples had spent with Jesus, he had become accustomed to his leadership role in the group. He was one of the inner circle, not only of the Twelve, but also of the three who most often accompanied Jesus on His most significant excursions. Yet when it really mattered, he found himself denying the One he had sworn he would never abandon.

Now, as he sat on the seashore with the resurrected Jesus eating fish and bread, he must have wondered what role he could possibly have in this group going forward. Fortunately for Peter, Jesus had no intention of leaving Peter in fear and doubt.

“Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” (v. 15), Jesus asked. Although Peter was hurt by the three-fold question, most scholars believe it was a three-fold restoration, given Peter’s three denials during Jesus’ trial.

This is the God we serve. When we fail, even at our worst moments, God comes to us with the offer of restoration.

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