

# John 21 - Becoming the person God wants you to be

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## There is a refocus on God's purpose

Joh 21:1-25 ESV 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. 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.

- First words of Jesus to Peter were... **"Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men"**
- "I am going fishing - no longer for men, but for fish" -- **The power of influence**
- These were fishermen with experience - and Jesus was a carpenter - **they** had no fish - **He did**
- Obedience to the words of Christ is what brought the success - cast the net on the right side
- **What would Jesus say to us if he wanted to refocus our lives? What would he remind us of?**

## The resetting of priorities - Love for the LORD

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."

- Do you AGAPE me? --- I am fond of you as a friend
- Do you AGAPE me? --- I am fond of you as a friend
- Are you fond of me as a friend? Peter was grieved.
- I think he wanted to say YES to agape, but he had denied the LORD 3 times...how could he?
- What would Jesus point to if he asked us if we love him **"more than THESE"**?
- If we love Him, then care about what He cares about

## Jesus takes a long view of our lives, he knows where he is taking us

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.)

## When He was young He said he was willing to die for Jesus

- Mat 26:31-35 ESV Then Jesus said to them, "**You will all fall away because of me this night.** For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' 32 But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." 33 Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." 34 Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." 35 Peter said to him, "**Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!**" And all the disciples said the same.

### **But he did not have the capacity in His youth to follow through with the desire of his heart**

- The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak
- When you were young - you pretty much did what you wanted to do...even though the spirit is willing

## When you are old...you will actually DO what you said you wanted to do - die the death of a martyr

- That is the journey, he looks at our deepest desires [often times desires placed there by the LORD] where our spirit is willing and leads us to the place where those desires can become a reality

## How do I get there?

And after saying this he said to him, "**Follow me.**" 20 Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who had been reclining at table close to him and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" 21 When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" 22 Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? **You follow me!**"

- The only way you can get to where you want to be and where He wants you to be is to **FOLLOW HIM**
- **Follow me**, are some of the first recorded words of Jesus to Peter, and they are now some of the very last

23 So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?" 24 This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true. 25 Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.