L GROUNDWORK

Jesus Christ Restores

Have you ever wondered if you're too broken, if you've sinned too much, or if you're just too far gone for Jesus to love you? Witness an interaction between Jesus and Peter that gives us the hope and courage to love Jesus despite our failings and to trust that Jesus is more than willing to restore us to full relationship with him. Join us as we study this post-resurrection appearance of Jesus Christ in the closing chapter of John's gospel and discover what Jesus calls all of his followers to go and do.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- If you were with Jesus' disciples when the resurrection happened, how do you imagine you'd have responded?
- Have you ever messed up so bad that you didn't think it was possible to be forgiven? What happened and how did you feel afterward?



READ John 21

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, host Dave Bast quotes his pastor who says, "Remember, we live in a world where a resurrection happened." How does this phrase encourage you, how does it give you hope in the daily situations you encounter in life?
- As Jesus restores Peter in John 21:15-19, he also commissions Peter to "feed his sheep." Like Peter, when we love the Lord, the Lord has work for us to do. How are you following Jesus and caring for his people so they might grow in their understanding of God's word and follow Jesus more closely?
- As segment 2 closes, host Dave Bast says, "...adopting the position of a person who no longer is alive for themselves, but living only for him. That is what it means to follow Jesus..." What do you think this looks like in a disciple of Christ today? Who do you know that reflects this well?
- Reread John 21:20-21. In what ways do you think we Christians today are like Peter, worried about someone else instead of focusing on following Jesus and doing what he has called us to do? If you were Peter, who would be John in your life?
- Who are the trustworthy, reliable witnesses who have told you about Jesus Christ and through whom you have come to believe in him?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 9:21-24, Hebrews 12:1-3

CONCLUSION

Spend some time reflecting on your answers to the questions above. As you reflect, sketch or write about:

- Your own experience of being restored by Jesus Christ
- Trustworthy and reliable witnesses who have mentored you in faith

Whose faith might be strengthened if you shared what you wrote or drew with them?

Close your time of reflection in prayer. Give thanks for restoration in Jesus Christ and for the people who have come alongside you in your faith journey. Ask for the Holy Spirit's help to be a person who loves and lives for Jesus. Pray for a heart, hands, and lips ready to share your own witness and encourage others to believe in Jesus Christ too.

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