

1. After the Last Supper

Matt 26: ³¹ Then Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: “I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.”³² But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”

³³ Peter replied, “**Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.**”

³⁴ “Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.³⁵ But Peter declared, “**Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.**” And all the other disciples said the same.

- Jesus told His disciples about the cross and their betrayal.
- But all the disciples said that they will never disown Jesus.

2. After the resurrection, an angel told the disciples to go to Galilee.

Matt 28:1 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ⁵ The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.”

3. Jesus showed up at the Sea of Galilee

John 21:1 Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee.^[a] It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus^[b]), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³ “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.⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.⁵ He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered.⁶ 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.⁷ 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.

- ➔ Even before He was crucified, Jesus had planned this reunion in Galilee.
- ✓ All of the disciples had betrayed Jesus and fled.
- ✓ After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples again and supernaturally provided food for them.
- ✓ Jesus took the initiative to reach out to the disciples who had betrayed Him and restored their relationship with Him.
- ✓ The events at the Sea of Galilee likely reminded the disciples of Jesus’ miracles.
- ✓ For the disciples, who were fishermen, it likely brought to mind their initial calling.

4 Jesus calling Love Jesus and take care of His sheep and follow Him.

John 21:15 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.”¹⁶ 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.”¹⁷ 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.

➔ Jesus's Greatest Concern

- 1 Do you love me more than these? ["Agape", the love of God; sacrificial love]
2. Feed my sheep, tend to them. [Caring for people: Nourishing and guiding them through the Word]

Jesus gave His disciples the Great Commission: "Go and preach the Gospel to all people." To preach the Gospel and to disciple people—to "shepherd and tend the flock"—the foundation is not a religious attitude, but God's love. It is by loving Jesus more than ourselves that we can fulfill this mission. On this Easter day, the risen Jesus asks us, "Do you love me more than you love yourself and others?"

2. Follow me

¹⁸ 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." ¹⁹ Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

John 21:20 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?") ²¹ When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?" ²² Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."

➔ You have a divine calling that has been entrusted to you.

- 1) Love Jesus above all else—[more than yourself, your family, your job, or money].
- 2) Share the Gospel, follow up with people, and serve in worship.
- 3) Let us keep our eyes fixed solely on Jesus, without looking to others. Let us walk in obedience to Jesus' words.

1 Jesus gave His disciples the "Great Commission." Each of us has been called to a specific mission. Just as Peter and John had different ministries, you too have a special work for the Lord to do.

2 Two Essential Things for Doing the Work of Jesus

- 1) Loving Jesus with agape love. "Self-sacrifice, unconditional, God's love, the love of the cross." Do you love Jesus more than you love yourself, and more than anything else?
- 2) Following Jesus. Focusing on the Lord—not on other people [not on family, friends, or other Christians].

"It doesn't matter what others do; you must follow Me."

3. How can I love Jesus more than I love myself?

Compared to Jesus' sacrifice, Peter thought he loved Jesus in his heart, but when he actually stood before the cross, he abandoned Jesus and fled. He even denied Jesus.

- ➔ Everyone puts themselves first. Out of fear, we run away and deny the truth in order to defend ourselves.
- ➔ After the resurrection, Peter reaffirmed Jesus' love for him at the Sea of Galilee. Jesus approached him personally; without reproaching Peter for his boastful words, He prepared breakfast, restored his spirit, and mended their relationship.
- ➔ Peter continued to follow Jesus. It is said that he ultimately died on an inverted cross. He loved Jesus more than he loved himself.
- ➔ Let us restore our loving relationship with Jesus.
- ➔ In our lives, we may face attacks from the devil, just as Peter did. But just as we were told to encourage the disciples once we had recovered, let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus no matter what happens. Let us love others with Jesus at the center of our hearts, without becoming upset by people's reactions or responses due to self-centered thinking. Let us never forget that all ministry should be done out of love for Jesus.