

B. Peter was commissioned by Jesus to "Feed My sheep" (John 21:17b).

²⁵ "So, I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the crawling locust, the consuming locust, and the chewing locust..." Joel 2:25a

² "Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly" I Peter 5:2

IV. REFOCUS ON JESUS' PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE

A. Jesus told Peter that he would die as a martyr.

¹⁸ "Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish."

¹⁹ This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, 'Follow Me.'" John 21:18-19

B. Peter asked about John's future.

²⁰ "Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, 'Lord, who is the one who betrays You?'

²¹ Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, 'But Lord, what about this man?'

²² Jesus said to him, 'If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me.'" John 21:20-22

¹² "For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise." II Corinthians 10:12

JESUS RESTORES BROKEN LIVES

FOLLOW JESUS: STORIES ON THE LIFE OF PETER

By The Fire: A Story of Restoration

Pastor Steve Reynolds

Introduction:

A. Jesus called out to Peter, "Follow Me" (Matthew 4:19). This began what would be a remarkable journey of Peter learning how to follow Jesus more closely.

There is much we can learn from studying the life of Peter. Many of the challenges he faced are common to all of us. We can relate to his humanity as he experienced great moments of faith and moments of failure.

To follow Jesus is to be like Jesus. Knowing this the Key Verse for this series is I Peter 2:21 where Peter wrote, "For this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps."

B. Attend the FOLLOW JESUS Teaching series to learn how to follow Jesus more closely. Explore interesting stories and valuable lessons from the life of Peter. Learn from this inspiring transformation of how a simple fisherman became a founding leader of Christianity.

Oct 12	On The Shore: A Story Of Transformation
Oct 19	Cast Your Nets: A Story Of Provision
Oct 26	In The Storm: A Story Of Faith
Nov 2	They Saw His Glory: A Story Of Confidence
Nov 9	Washing Their Feet: A Story Of Serving
Nov 16	I Don't Know Him: A Story Of Failure
TODAY	By The Fire: A Story Of Restoration
Nov 30	Build My Church: A Story Of Significance

C. TEXT John 21:1-22

Follow Jesus Principle: Jesus restores broken lives.

¹⁷ "He said to him the third time, 'Simon, son of Jonah 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 all things; You know that I love You.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed My sheep.'" John 21:17

HOW JESUS RESTORES BROKEN LIVES

I. RETURN ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO JESUS

A. Jesus appeared to the disciples.

¹ *"After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself."* John 21:1

This is one of ten appearances Jesus made after the resurrection.

B. Peter and the disciples backslid and went back to fishing.

¹⁰ *"...and Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men.'*

¹¹ *So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him."* Luke 5:10b-11

³ *"Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We are going with you also.' They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing.*

⁴ *But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.*

⁵ *Then Jesus said to them, 'Children, have you any food?' They answered Him, 'No.'*

⁶ *And He said to them, 'Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish."* John 21:3-6

C. Peter enthusiastically swam to Jesus.

⁷ *"Therefore, that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea."* John 21:7

¹² *"Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit."* Psalm 51:12

II. RECEIVE COMPLETE RESTORATION FROM JESUS

A. Jesus invited them to have breakfast with Him.

⁹ *"Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread.*

¹⁰ *Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught.'*

¹¹ *Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken.*

¹² *Jesus said to them, 'Come and eat breakfast...'"*

John 21:9-12a

B. Peter and the disciples accepted His invitation.

¹³ *"Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish."* John 21:13

¹ *"Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted."* Galatians 6:1

III. RECOMMIT TO BEING USED BY JESUS

A. Jesus asked Peter three times, "Do you love me?"

¹⁵ *"So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of Jonah, 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 again a second time, 'Simon, son of Jonah, 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 Jonah, 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 all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, 'Feed My sheep.'" John 21:15-17*

Peter had denied the Lord three times (Mark 14:72) and now he is given three opportunities to declare his love.