

Jesus' Unchanging Love

John 21:1-25

Key Verse: 21:12

1. Read verses 1-3. To what does "Afterward" refer? Where did this third resurrection appearance occur? Who was there? What did Peter and the disciples do? With what result? What was their spiritual/human condition?
2. Read verses 4-6. Why didn't the disciples recognize Jesus? How did he greet them? How did he turn failure into success? Of what event in Peter's life does this remind us? (Lk 5:4-6) What unsolved problem was in Peter's heart? (Lk 22:60-62)
3. Read verses 7-8. Who recognized Jesus first? When they realized it was Jesus, what did Peter and the others do? Who was most excited and why?
4. Read verses 9-14. What was Jesus' invitation? Why might the disciples understand this love language? (See also Heb 13:8; Mk 14:14; Rev 3:20b) How did the disciples respond? How can we have a love relationship with Jesus? (See Ro 5:8; 1Jn 4:19; 1Pe 2:24)
5. Read verse 15. Why did Jesus focus on Peter? What did Jesus ask? What does he mean by "more than these"? What does it mean to love Jesus? Why must we love him if we serve him? What was Peter's response and Jesus' command?
6. Read verses 16-17. How is this exchange repeated? What does it mean to "feed my lambs," "take care of my sheep," and "feed my sheep"? Who are Jesus' sheep? Why was Peter hurt? Why did he need to be hurt to be healed?
7. Read verses 18-19. What change would take place in Peter's life as a disciple of Jesus? What is the same? Why did Jesus speak about Peter's death? Read verses 20-23. Why did Peter ask about John? What did Jesus teach him? What can we learn here about the writer of this book? (24,25).