

The background is a dark blue gradient with faint, stylized technical diagrams. On the right, there is a large circular gauge with concentric circles and radial markings, resembling a speedometer or a pressure gauge. On the left, there are smaller circular elements, including a dashed circle with an arrow and a solid circle with a small arrow. The overall aesthetic is technical and futuristic.

That's a *GOOD* Question

Part II

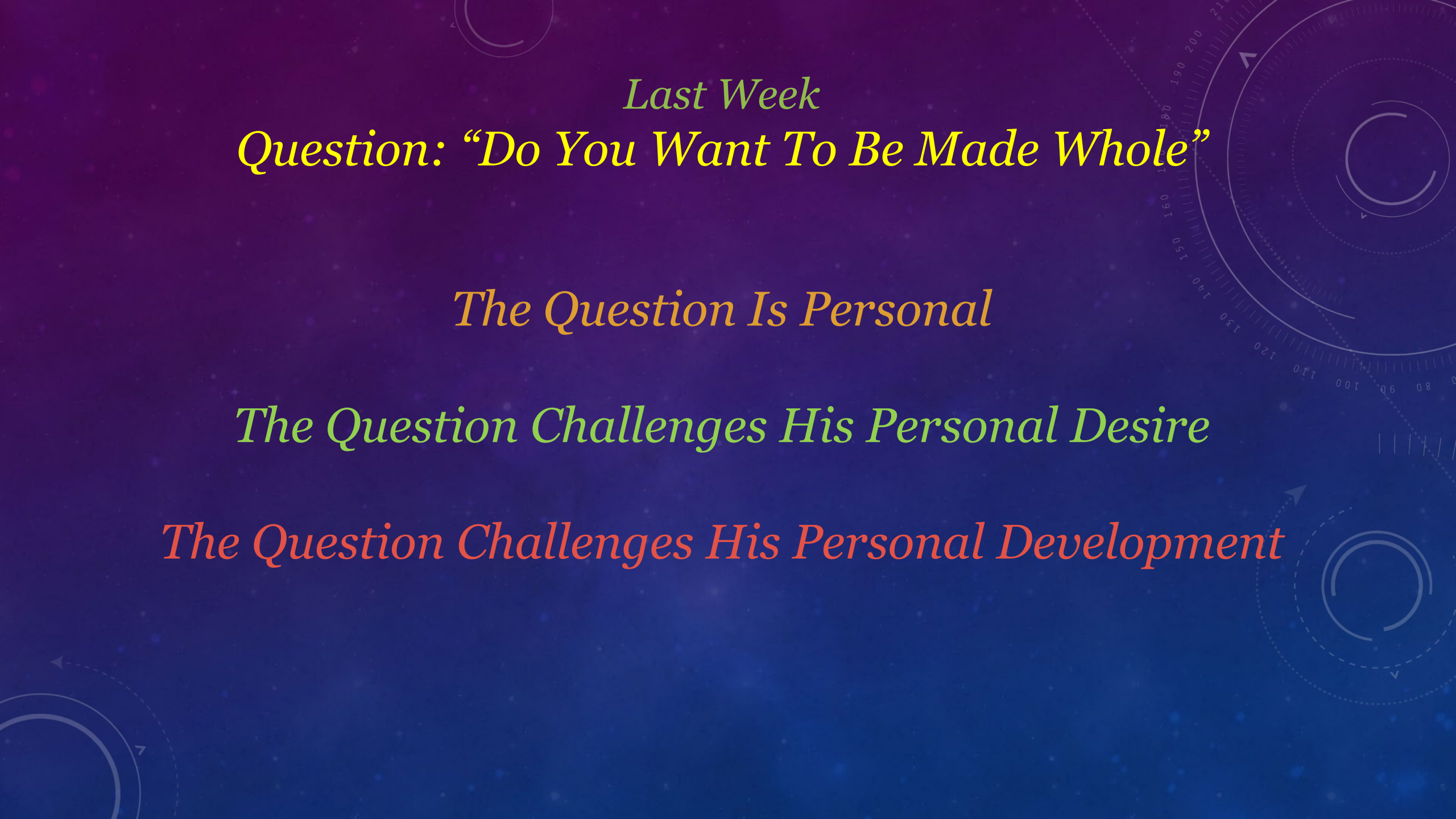
Why This Series

Jesus who is *All-Knowing*, *All-Seeing*, and *All-Powerful* Constantly *Asked Questions...*
The Four Gospels Record About *339 Questions* Asked By Jesus
Jesus Did Not *Ask Questions To Get Information...* There Was Always Something Deeper

- 1) To Teach Others by promoting *THOUGHT* and *SELF-EXAMINATION*
- 2) To Nurture Deeper Conversations and Relationships
- 3) To Encourage People to come to their Own Conclusions, and Reveal Their Needs
- 4) To Build *FAITH* and Draw People into a more Personal Understanding of Truth
- 5) To Draw Out What Was Really In Their Hearts

Jesus' Questions Went *Beyond Surface Dialogue*
They Were Intended To Go *Beyond Words* To Challenge *Beliefs and Mindsets*

So, In This Series We Will Study Some Of Jesus' Questions
To Engage In Deeper Conversations And See How They Can
Promote Deeper Thought And Spiritual Insight



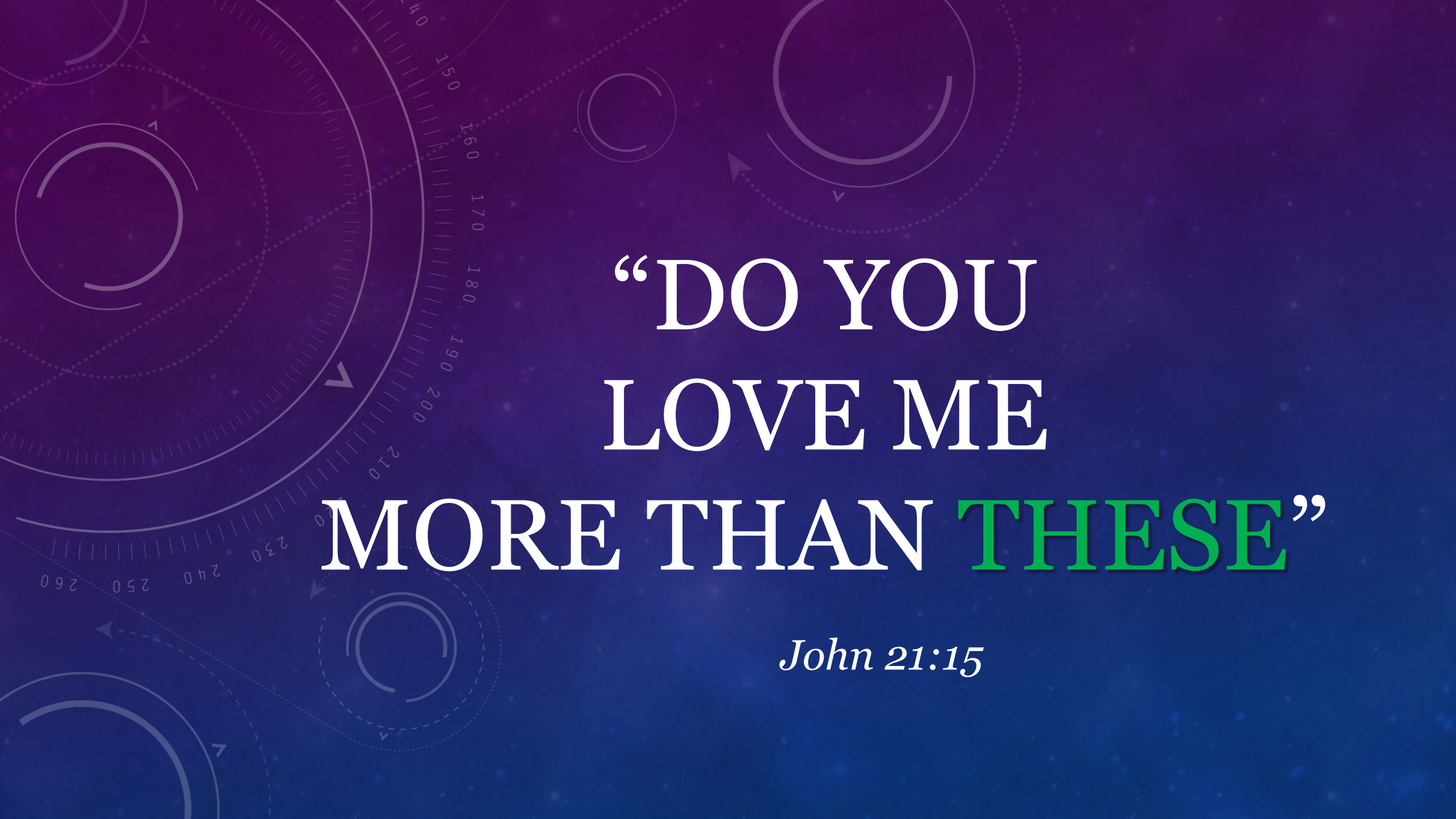
Last Week

Question: “Do You Want To Be Made Whole”

The Question Is Personal

The Question Challenges His Personal Desire

The Question Challenges His Personal Development

The background features a gradient from deep purple at the top to a dark blue at the bottom. Overlaid on this are several faint, light-colored circular patterns. A prominent circular scale with numerical markings (40, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 230, 240, 250, 260) and arrows is visible on the left side. Other circular elements include concentric circles and dashed lines with arrows, suggesting a sense of rotation or movement.

“DO YOU
LOVE ME
MORE THAN **THESE**”

John 21:15

John 21:15

*15 So when they had eaten 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."

Introduction

Peter is the disciple that many of us can identify with...

Peter had some good days and bad days

Peter walked on water, then immediately began to sink

Peter had a revelation from Heaven about Jesus' identity, but then was called Satan by Jesus

Peter fell asleep on Jesus, then pulled out a switch blade and cut a man's ear off defending Jesus

Peter had some good days and bad days...

But *Peter* was faithful until the end...

He had failures, but he was able to overcome them AND be used by God in a mighty way...

Jesus asked Peter a question in John 21 ~ Simon Peter, Son of John,

DO YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN THESE?

Why Did Jesus Ask Peter This Question At This Time?

What Are "THESE" that Jesus is referring to?

What Does Love Have To Do With Anything?

Principle #1
The Priority Of Peter's Love
John 21:15

*15 So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter,
"Simon, son of John, DO YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN THESE?"*

Peter Was A Fisherman
Matthew 4:18-20 (NKJV)

*18 And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter,
and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; FOR THEY WERE FISHERMEN.*

19 Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will MAKE YOU fishers of men."

20 They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Just Because He Left It... Doesn't Mean He Doesn't Still Love It

After The Death of Christ, Peter Was Sitting Around And Began To Be Impatient

John 21:3 (NKJV)

3 Simon Peter said to them, "I AM GOING FISHING." They said to him, "We are going with you also."

Principle #1

The Priority Of Peter's Love

Jesus Has To **Alter The Outcome To** Maintain His Attention

Luke 5:1-11 (NKJV)

1 So it was, **as the multitude pressed about Him TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, 2 and saw two boats standing by the lake; **but the fishermen had gone from them and WERE WASHING THEIR NETS.**

3 Then He got into one of the boats, **WHICH WAS SIMON'S**, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And **He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.**

4 When He had stopped speaking, **He said to Simon**, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." 5 **BUT** Simon answered and said to Him, "**Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net.**" 6 And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking.

8 When Simon Peter saw it, **he fell down at Jesus' knees**, saying, "**DEPART FROM ME, FOR I AM A SINFUL MAN, O LORD!**"

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.**

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from the land. And *He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.*

- 1) While The Crowd Is Pressing To Hear The Word, Peter Is Working Preparing To Go Out Again
- 2) *Jesus Gets Into Peter's Business...* Starts Teaching From The Thing That He Uses Most
- 3) *If You Don't Hear The Sermon...* He Will Teach Through/In Your Situation

He Needs To Teach Him So That He Can Transition Him

SO, If You Are Busy Working/Doing Your Thing
God Will Arrange A Situation To Grab Your Attention

The Priority Of Peter's Love

*Jesus Has To **Alter The Outcome To** Maintain His Attention*

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God Will Dry Up Your Business So That You Can Be About His Business

John 21:3 (NKJV)

*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.***

Christ Did Not Desire For Peter To Fear Him... But Follow Him

1 John 4:18 (NLT)

*18 Such love has no fear, because **perfect love expels all fear.** If we are afraid, **it is for fear of punishment**, and this shows that we have not **FULLY EXPERIENCED** his perfect love.*

Principle #1
The Priority Of Peter's Love
John 21:15 (NKJV)

15DO YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN THESE?"

So, What Is Your THESE?

What Is Keeping You From Fully Committing To Christ
What Is Keeping You From Giving Him Your Very Best

Are You Prepared For Christ To Alter It...SO THAT He Can Get Your Attention?

Our Response Should Be Like Paul
Romans 8:38 (NLT)

38 And I am convinced THAT NOTHING CAN EVER SEPARATE ME from God's love!!!

Principle #2

The Pride Of Peter's Love

John 21:15

15 After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, **DO YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN THESE?**” “Yes, Lord,” Peter replied, “You know I love You.”

Jesus is asking Peter, “ARE YOU **MORE LOYAL TO ME THAN THE OTHER DISCIPLES?**”

Matthew 26:31-35 (NLT)

31 On the way, Jesus told them, “Tonight **ALL OF YOU** will desert me. For the Scriptures say, ‘God will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

32 But after I have been raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there.”

33 Peter declared, “Even if everyone else deserts you, **I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU.**”

34 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, Peter—this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you even know me.”

35 “**NO!**” PETER INSISTED. “**EVEN IF I HAVE TO DIE WITH YOU, I WILL NEVER DENY YOU!**”

ADVERSITY WILL ELIMINATE ARROGANCE

1 Peter 5:6 (ESV)

6 **HUMBLE YOURSELVES**, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time *he may exalt you...*

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John 21:15

15 After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, **DO YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN THESE?**" "Yes, Lord," Peter replied, "YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU."

Jesus Teaches Peter That Love Is Not Mere Lip Service ~ But Dedicated Loyalty

He Did Not **Continue To Argue** With Peter ~ HE KNOWS What Is Ahead

Matthew 26:33-35 (NLT)

33 Peter declared, "Even if everyone else deserts you, **I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU.**"

34 Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, Peter—this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you even know me."

35 **"NO!" PETER INSISTED. "EVEN IF I HAVE TO DIE WITH YOU, I WILL NEVER DENY YOU!"**

Notice Peter's Response

"YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU"

Jesus Uses **Failure** To Produce Humility

Principle #3

The Personal Perspective Of Peter's Love

John 21:15-17 (NIV)

15 When **they** had finished eating, **Jesus said to Simon Peter**, "Simon son of John, do **YOU** truly 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** truly 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."

Peter Had Sinned But Now Jesus Is Reassuring Him Of His Love

1 Peter 4:8 (NLT)

8 Most important of all, **continue to show deep love** for each other, **for LOVE COVERS** a multitude of sins.

*Although Peter Had Denied Jesus...
Although Peter Was Overconfident...*

His Failures Did Not Nullify His Usefulness In The Kingdom

Principle #3

The Personal Perspective Of Peter's Love

John 21:15 (NLT)

15 "Simon son of John, **DO YOU LOVE ME** more than these?"

*There Is A Reason That It Seems Like God Is Picking On You
He Is Picking On You Because Of The Purpose That Is In You*

Matthew 26:36-41 (NLT)

36 Then Jesus went with them to the olive grove called Gethsemane, and he said, "Sit here while I go over there to pray." 37 He took Peter and Zebedee's two sons, James and John, and he became anguished and distressed. 38 He told them, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

39 He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, "My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."

40 Then he returned to **the disciples** and found **THEM ASLEEP. HE SAID TO PETER,**
"Couldn't **YOU** watch with me even one hour?"

41 Keep watch and pray, so that **YOU** will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak!"

Luke 22:31-32 (NLT)

31 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift **EACH OF YOU LIKE WHEAT.**

32 **But I have pleaded in prayer FOR YOU, SIMON,** that **YOUR FAITH** should not fail. So **WHEN YOU HAVE REPENTED** and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers."

Principle #3

The Personal Perspective Of Peter's Love

John 21:15 (NLT)

15 “Simon son of John, **DO YOU LOVE ME** more than these?”

Because Of The Magnitude Of The Assignment, Jesus Has To Have Assurance Of The Affection

Acts 2:14, 41 (NIV)

14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and **addressed the crowd...**

41 Those who **accepted his message** were baptized,
and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Love for God **is not solely an emotion but a decision** that manifests **IN ACTIONS**.
These actions include **serving the poor, teaching others**, or any other way
one can use their gifts **TO BENEFIT GOD'S KINGDOM**.

What Keeps Us Serving Is Not Our Love For The Job, The Ministry, or Our Family
What Keeps Us Serving Faithfully Is **“We Love God More Than Anything”**

Matthew 22:37-38 (NLT)

37 Jesus replied, “You **MUST LOVE** the Lord your God with **all your heart**, all your soul, and
all your mind.” 38 This is the first and greatest commandment.

In Conclusion

John 21:15 (NLT)

15“Simon son of John, do you love me *more than these?*”

The Priority Of Peter's Love

The Pride Of Peter's Love

The Personal Perspective Of Peter's Love