



**Series:** Free To ...

**Sermon Title:** Free to Lead

**Date:** 8/6/2023

**John 21:15-17**

**Our Big Idea: You are Free to lead**

We're going to come to understand that by answering three questions:

**WHAT DO YOU LOVE?**

**John 21:15**

Jesus is challenging Peter on his true love for him. A challenge that pushes him not only to profess his love with his mouth but one that will also ask of him his entire life.

What do you love unconditionally? Is it God? Do you love him more than the opinions of others around you? Do you love him more than your stuff, hobbies, or job? If you focus on building his kingdom, those other aspects of your life will experience the fruit of that goal.

If your goal is to love God, what will come along the way will be developing leaders, creating life-long friendships, and creating communities; it will be changing the world. **Don't allow fear to keep you from what you love, from allowing your love for God to keep you from his people. Say yes, and Amen, and GOD will begin to equip you.**

**WHAT COMMUNITY HAS GOD POSITIONED YOU TO LEAD?**

**John 21:15-16**

1. First, Pray and ask God to show you who He wants you to lead.
2. Second, look around you! These people you are shoulder to shoulder with may be waiting for someone to lead them.
3. Third, open your eyes to where God has already strategically placed you. What are your passions? Is it that you already read through books of the bible on your own? Start a bible study! Is that you already have a bike community? Start one but with Christ at the center!

You are free to lead a Small Group that fits the passions God has given you. Whatever you want to welcome our church into, as long as it's God-glorifying and as long as it follows our 4 elements of community, you can!

### 1. Casual Fellowship

- Laid-back time for group members to get to know each other

### 2. Activity or Discussion

- It could be an activity like Frisbee, outreach, or a discussion about a book or Sunday Message.

### 3. Prayer

- Ask for requests from group members and pray at the beginning and/or end of each group meeting.

### 4. Spiritual Component

- This can be as simple as sharing something God is teaching you with the group or talking about a verse you read that week.

## WILL YOU LEAD?

John 21:15-17

Jesus asked Peter if he loved him. Jesus asked Peter if he Agape's him - if he loves him unconditionally. Peter says he loved him like a friend, "phileo". But many believe that Jesus was trying to convey to Peter that to lead, he would need to love Jesus more than anything else.

If you're ready to lead, we have coaches ready to come alongside you, encourage you, and pray with you so that you never feel lost along the way. We've set up a structure with training videos, one-on-one support, and community nights so that you know you're never alone in leading. And we want you to be a part of that. If you want to take a leap of faith to begin doing that, email Chris Carpio at [Chris@grace4families.com](mailto:Chris@grace4families.com).

We're officially launching our first semester of small groups this fall. That means that the small group you choose will meet for 13 weeks, and then you'll have a month's break where you can choose to continue meeting or take a break for the following semester. We want to answer all your questions and get you as much training and connecting as possible so that you feel confident that although you may not have all the answers, you know that God and we are with you and you are not alone.

### Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Who are the sheep that God has placed before you?**
- **What do you love unconditionally? What are the benefits or consequences of loving unconditionally?**
- **Do you feel qualified to lead a group? Why or why not?**
- **What passions do you have that can be made into a group?**
- **Which of the four elements of small group community do you struggle with the most? Explain**