

Series: Champions In Training Week 2: Feed My Sheep

INTRO:

This week's teaching builds on Week 1 of our Champions In Training series, where we focused on the calling and equipping of leaders in God's Kingdom.

Week 2 focuses on one of Jesus' final conversations with Peter; a moment that would redefine Peter's future and challenge all of us to see **"Love for Jesus" as inseparable from "Service to People."**

Scripture Foundation

John 21:15–17 (NKJV)

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.

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."

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."

BIG IDEA:

If you say you love Jesus, you'd better be ready to serve people. Love for Him is not measured by feelings, but by faithfulness in action.

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POINT 1: Love Proves Itself in the Dirt

Peter had denied Him. Cursed His name. And now Jesus gives him the greatest opportunity of his life. Why? Because Jesus knew: *failure does not disqualify love*. But love that is real—*proves itself*.

"Peter, do you love Me?" PROVE IT—Show up, feed my sheep...

- It's not a test of feelings. It's a call to faithfulness.

Supporting Scriptures:

1 John 4:20 (NIV) "Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen."

Galatians 6:2 (NIV) "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

POINT 2: You Don't Have to Be Perfect, You Just Have to Be Present.

Jesus did not ask Peter to fix the sheep, only to feed them. God is looking for faithful examples, not flawless experts.

Supporting Scriptures:

Jeremiah 3:15 (NIV)

"Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding."

Isaiah 58:10-11 (NIV)

¹⁰ "And if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. ¹¹ The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail."

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POINT 3: Your Failure Isn't Final

Peter's public failure did not end his calling. Jesus met him with grace and entrusted him with the mission.

Supporting Scriptures:

Proverbs 24:16 (ESV)

“For the righteous falls seven times and rises again, but the wicked stumble in times of calamity.

Proverbs 27:23 (NIV)

“Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds.”

STORY: The Woman Who Fed a Village

In a small Kenyan village, a woman noticed children in her community going hungry every morning. She had no title, no budget, and no official role but she had a pot, some grain, and a determination to make a difference. She began cooking porridge every day, feeding as many children as she could. Word spread. People began donating food. A local school partnered with her. Within months, her simple act of feeding a few children grew into a program that fed the entire village's schoolchildren. She never sought recognition; she just saw a need and stepped in. This is what leadership looks like: seeing the need, feeling the pull, and stepping in even when no one else does.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does Jesus' conversation with Peter teach us about the link between loving Him and serving others?
2. In what ways can you be more present in your calling this week, even if you don't feel ready?
3. How does Peter's restoration encourage you about your own past failures?
4. What needs do you see in your community or church that you could step into this week?
5. What resources do you already have in your hand that could be used to feed, serve, or help others?

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APPLICATION:

This week, look for one tangible way to feed someone in your life spiritually, emotionally, or physically. Write it down and act on it.

PRAYER:

Lord, awaken the shepherd within me. Show me where to serve and who to serve. Let my life be a testimony of love in action, not just in words. Use me to feed those You put in my path. In Jesus name, amen.

1 Peter 5:2–3 (NLT)

“Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly — not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God. Don’t lord it over the people assigned to your care, but lead them by your own good example.”

Next Steps

If you feel the call to serve through this series, go to the Champion Church app and open the box titled, “Join the Champion Serve Team.” Fill out the form and write in the text box: “Feed My Sheep” so we know exactly what you are responding to. We will follow up with you to get you connected into our serving orientation class (coming soon), where you can discover how to start feeding His sheep through your gifts and calling.

Closing Scripture

Hebrews 6:10 (NIV)

“God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them.”