

RESTORATION

PURPOSE

Begin guiding someone who has left God &/or the church to be restored. This should not be the only bible study.

TEACHING TIPS

Each restoration is different. It is important first to listen to their story with these questions in mind; how did they become a disciple? What led to the decision to leave? Why are they coming back? Constructing a written, spiritual timeline is very helpful.

This Bible study focuses on Peter, a disciple who fell away & then was restored.

Luke 5:1-11

How did Peter react when Jesus suggested fishing in deep water? Reluctant. Annoyed. How did Peter respond to Jesus after the miracle? Didn't want to be near Jesus. Jesus reassures him & then Peter becomes his disciple. What was it about Jesus that inspired you to follow him at first?

Matthew 26:69-75

After 3 years with Jesus, Peter falls away by disowning him 3 times in shame. Describe how you felt when you left.

John 21:3-14

What are the similarities between this fishing story & Luke 5?

- Peter is fishing with his crew.
- They catch nothing.
- Jesus shows up & gives fishing advice.
- The fishermen take the advice.
- Jesus produces a miraculous catch.

How is Peter's reaction different than in Luke 5? Peter wants to be with him.

Jesus pursues a relationship with us the same way he did with Peter. He never gives up. How have you noticed Jesus not giving up on you?

John 21:15-22

3 times Jesus asks Peter if he loves him, the same amount of times Peter disowned him. The first 2 times, Jesus asks "do you agape me?" **Agape** [Greek] = sacrificial love.

Peter answers "yes, I phileo you." **Phileo** [Greek] = friendship love.

The third time, Jesus asks Peter "do you phileo me?"

Jesus meets Peter where he's at. Then he challenges Peter to follow him. Jesus is the perfect balance of grace & truth.

CHALLENGE

- * Have a personal devotional time reviewing Peter's life through these scriptures & write down ways you can relate to his spiritual journey.
- * Decide to come consistently to church meetings & a small group.