

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup> Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.” <sup>17</sup> 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.” <sup>18</sup> Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” <sup>19</sup> Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!” John 21:15-19

**God’s restoration is personal and complete.** (Isaiah 61:3)

- God doesn’t just heal pieces of us—He restores the whole person.

**Restoration is the beginning, not the end.** (Ephesians 2:8-10)

- Restoration is never the final chapter. When Jesus restores us, it’s not just about forgiveness; it’s about launching us into our God-given purpose.

**Progression, not perfection.** (Philippians 3:12)

- God is not looking for perfect people—He’s looking for surrendered hearts willing to grow.

**Love that restores also sends.** (Matthew 28:18-20 & John 21:17)

- Just like Peter, we are restored for a calling far greater than ourselves.

### Let’s Talk About It

Peter’s story shows us that God’s current often moves beneath the surface of failure and regret. Jesus didn’t just forgive Peter—He restored him completely and launched him into a greater purpose. Restoration wasn’t the end of Peter’s story; it was the beginning of his mission. Even in Peter’s imperfections, Jesus called him to lead, love, and follow. That same Spirit-empowered call flows to us today—we are restored not to sit still, but to move with God’s mission.

John 21:15-19; Isaiah 61:3; Ephesians 2:8-10; Philippians 3:12; Matthew 28:18-20

### Discussion questions:

- Which part of the message impacted or challenged you?
- Read John 21:15-19. What stands out to you about the way Jesus restores Peter? How does His approach show both love and purpose?
- How does Peter’s restoration move him into mission? What does this say about God’s purpose for us—even after failure?
- “Restoration is the beginning, not the end.” Have you ever felt disqualified from being used by God? If so, briefly share. How does Peter’s story encourage or challenge you?
- Read Ephesians 2:8-10. Jesus invited Peter to “follow Him”. Peter wasn’t perfect, but he was willing. What’s one area where you sense God is inviting you to grow or step out in faith?

### Take a Step

This week, reflect on an area in your life where you’ve felt disqualified, discouraged, or stuck. Ask God to replace the lies with His truth—and then take one step of obedience. Whether it’s reaching out to someone, serving in a new way, or something else, trust God and move with the current of His restoring grace.

### Here’s My Prayer

Jesus, thank You that You don’t leave us in our failure. You restore us completely—heart, soul, and purpose. Help us receive Your grace fully and walk in the calling You’ve placed on our lives. Give us the courage to follow You, even when we don’t feel ready. Use us to love, serve, and lead as You did. In Jesus, name, Amen.