

# *Light and Life:* Jesus in the Gospel of John

Today's message: **Do You Love Me?**

**Prelude:** Painful memories of a charcoal fire

**John 21:9-14 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup>When they got out on land, they saw **a charcoal fire** in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

What Peter would surely rather forget:

**John 18:15-18 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup>Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, <sup>16</sup>but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup>The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." <sup>18</sup>Now the servants and officers had made **a charcoal fire**, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

Jesus challenges Peter (and us all):

**John 21:15-19 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup>When they had finished 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." <sup>16</sup>He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, **do you love me?**" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, **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 everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep." <sup>18</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." <sup>19</sup>(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "**Follow me.**"

Why "... more than these"?

Why ask the same question 3x?

## How to love God after you have **failed**:

1. Face the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
of my failure.

*Ignoring leads to ...*

*What did Peter learn?*

*What is God teaching me?*

2. Embrace the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
of Christ.

*Confession is ...*

3. Move on in \_\_\_\_\_ and get on with \_\_\_\_\_  
for my life.

*God's desire for me is ...*

4. Love God more than \_\_\_\_\_, no matter what it costs.

*Love is best seen in ...*

*Will I love God ...*

### **Mark 12:28-30 (ESV)**

<sup>28</sup> And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "**Which commandment is the most important of all?**" <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.' <sup>30</sup> **And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'**