

## A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of November 23, 2025

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

## John 21:15-19 Do You Love Me?

Before the crucifixion, Peter publicly denied that he knew Jesus three times (<u>John 18:15-18, 25-27</u>). Jesus knew that Peter would do this (<u>John 13:36-38</u>). After His resurrection, Jesus appears to Peter and six other disciples by the Sea of Tiberias (<u>John 21:1-14</u>). These incidents are in the backdrop of today's passage. Now, Jesus speaks to Simon Peter about the breach in their relationship and Jesus' purposes for Peter.

<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."

- What do you think it was like for the resurrected Christ and Peter to see and talk to one another for the first time since Peter's denial? What would that be like for Peter? What might he be thinking and wrestling with?
- Why do you think Jesus essentially asks the same question and gives the same charge to Peter three times?
- What is Jesus talking about when He speaks to Peter of tending and feeding the flock?
- Peter almost certainly is experiencing shame, temptation, confusion, and pride. What does Jesus do to address those spiritual dynamics?
- Jesus and Peter talk about love. What does it mean for a disciple to love Jesus?
- Have you ever experienced being forgiven for a great sin, and the humiliation that came with it? Share about that experience. What did you do with your shame? What did God do in you in such a vulnerable place?
- What does Jesus mean by His statement in verse 18? (Hint: read verse 19!)
- Part of Jesus message to Peter: you don't have enough power to set your own course (18-19). How might that message land with Peter given everything that has transpired?
- Pray together in light of this week's passage.

