

Do You Love Jesus? Feed His Sheep (John 21:15-25, 20:30-31)

Pastor Deric Thomas

(15) 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."

(16) 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."

(17) 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."

(18) 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." (19) (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."

(20) Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" (21) When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" (22) Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!"

(23) So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?" (24) This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

(25) Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. [John 21:15-25 ESV]

(30) Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; (31) but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. [John 20:30-31 ESV]

Practical Application

1. Start each day off spending time with Jesus (Breakfast With Jesus).
2. Jesus can make even the most unstable, insecure, and shaky people stable like a rock. Move from insecurity to stability in Christ today.
3. Do you love Jesus more than anything or anyone else? Love the one who first loved you.
4. If we loved Jesus perfectly we would obey Him perfectly. Love the one who is most lovable. Loving Jesus is the best thing you can do.
5. Since we love God imperfectly we all need a Savior. Jesus died on the cross for our imperfect and misguided love.
6. Jesus Christ is the Savior that we all need who can forgive us of our sin, even our deepest heart level sin.
7. The best response to Jesus is always "Yes, Lord." Love gives itself fully and appropriately to the object of its affection.

8. If we love Jesus we will be a part of feeding His people (lambs). How are you teaching people about Jesus, the Gospel, God's Word, God's ways, and His truth? How are you modeling a loving life to others?
9. If we love Jesus we will be a part of tending His people (sheep). How are you leading others toward Christ with your words, actions, and attitudes?
10. Feeding and leading people spiritually is the most important thing we can do. Feed God's sheep.
11. Jesus can forgive and restore even the greatest failures. God can redeem, rebuilt, and renew you today. He can give you back all that satan has tried to take from you, and more.
12. There comes a time when every boy and girl must grow up and become a man or woman. What is your next step of maturity? What needs to change today for you to grow in your faith? Baptism? Church membership? Etc.?
13. Maturity is loving Jesus, loving people (especially Christians), and laying down our lives sacrificially to do so.
14. Do not compare yourself, your life, and your calling to others. Just follow Jesus. Look up, and not around.
15. The love of Jesus is what changes us from the inside out and empowers us to glorify God to the fullest in all we do.
16. Even the best of God's people can misunderstand and misinterpret His words and the words of others. Be wise, discerning, and cautious. Become more understanding, a better interpreter, and more loving toward others with your words today.
17. Tell others about all that Jesus has done, and challenge them to believe in Him and love Him with all their hearts.
18. Jesus can give you and others abundant life now and eternal life forever.
19. Do you love Jesus? If so, then feed His Sheep.

Announcements

1. **New Message Series:** The Best News The World Has Ever Heard (The Book of Romans). Starting October 15th.
2. **Children's AWANA Program and Adult Small Group Bible Study** are on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30.
3. **New Small Group:** Young Married Couples. Sunday's on campus @ 9am. See Ben and Lindsay Talley for details.
4. **Men's Ministry:** Join us for a Chili Cook-Off and Cornhole Tournament on October 15 at 5pm.
4. **Youth Event** (6th-12 graders): Join us for the Reverb Event on November 17-18. Contact David Barrero, our Youth Minister, for more details.
5. **Food Drive:** Help us feed our community in Jesus' name on October 21 (9am-1pm). If you are available let DonDee Osburn know, or just show up to serve.
6. **Church-wide Potluck Lunch:** Our next Sunday potluck lunch will be on October 29th. Enjoy a time of fellowship around the table with your faith family. Bring a covered dish that is enough to feed your family.