

John 21 “PETER RESCUED FROM DENIAL”

Week 35

EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY FAIL JESUS JESUS WILL NEVER FAIL YOU

I really enjoy fixing things that are broken. Some years ago, I had this great idea of restoring a Chevy Blazer. So, I enlisted the help of a friend who found the remains of a 1972 Chevy Blazer 4X4. When I say remains, I mean remains. It was the cab, on the frame, on four wheels, and that was it. No engine compartment and no engine. I thought, “That’s exactly what I want.” So, I rescued it from the junkyard and began the long (I mean really long) restoration process. When I was done, I had a fully operational Blazer with 35” tires, a beautiful 350 cubic inch engine, a new interior, seats, windows, and a stereo. It was ready to roll. It had been restored.

This is what Jesus does with you. He says, “She is exactly what I want.” Rescues you from the junkyard and restores you to the purpose God had intended for you all along. To radiate His kingdom as He works His beautiful and customized plan for your life. Jesus rescues and restores. He not only makes us new, but He also does new things, even through struggle and failure. He did that in Peter’s life and is doing that in your life today.

(10 min) PRAY

As a Life Group, reflect and pray over this weekend’s message. Spend time prayerfully reflecting on the restoring work of Christ in your life.

(25 min) REFLECT

As you’ve had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through this week’s teaching, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. It can be difficult to clearly see Jesus when we are struggling with failure. As mentioned in the teaching, Jesus will point us back to what He has done so He can point us forward to what *He will do*. Spend time reflecting on all He has done in your life. Make a list, if helpful, and anchor yourself to His faithfulness. Be open to what He has for you as YOU MOVE FORWARD.

Jesus will point us back to what *He has done* so that He can point us forward to what *He will do*.

2. Once Peter knew it was Jesus on the shore, He jumped out of the boat and swam toward Him. Peter moved toward Jesus with everything He had. Are you moving toward Jesus, or are you running from Him? You may not be avoiding Him altogether, but you may be

holding back, even in the slightest way. Be honest. Write down how you have been holding back.

Complete restoration can only happen once you give yourself entirely to Jesus.

3. Restoration is not a matter of what you can do. It's a matter of whom you love and what He can do through you. This was the focus of Jesus's dialogue with Peter. Why is love the central theme of restoration? Consider other stories in the Bible and Scriptures.
4. Spend time reflecting on key things that impacted your life during this study and share them. Spend time thanking God for all He has done in your life over the last 35 studies.

WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSES: **Isaiah 43:19 Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?**

This Week's Missional Living Tip: Be on the lookout for people Jesus wants to restore. Be a part of His restoration process by sharing His love with them.