

“Do You Love Me?”

12/31/17

John 21:15-25

In this passage Jesus engaged Peter in perhaps the most intimate soul searching conversation recorded in all of the Gospels.

This is the same conversation that Jesus desires to have with us.

There are three key issues which must be understood if we hope to grasp the significance of this conversation.

1st We must understand the occasion of the conversation

1. There was some unfinished business with Peter
2. Peter promised to remain faithful, even to the point of death
3. Peter crumbled under the pressure and denied Him 3 times
4. This conversation addresses Peter’s restoration to ministry.

2nd We must understand the motive for sincere ministry

1. Christ asked a question: “Do you love me more than these?”
2. Christ is asking for Peter’s unconditional, total devotion
3. Peter’s ministry must be rooted in his deep love of the Savior
4. Jesus wanted his devotion before he instructed him in service

3rd. We must understand the true cost of discipleship

1. True discipleship requires genuine repentance
2. True discipleship requires total love and commitment
3. True discipleship demands faithful obedience

Jesus summarized the Christian life in 2 words “FOLLOW ME”

2018 Theme Verse: Matt. 6:33

“Seek 1st the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you”

Challenge: “Be a Kingdom Seeker”

- Seek to put Jesus Christ first in every part of your life
- Faithfully read the assigned passages five times
- Memorize and recite one verse each week

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