

CLAIMED BY GOD

Life Group
Discussion
Guide

04/26/2026

Sermon Summary: In John 21, the disciples return to what is familiar, fishing, after the resurrection, unsure of what comes next. Jesus meets them there, not in a dramatic new setting, but in the ordinary rhythms of life, reminding them that the resurrection continues their story rather than ending it. Through a miraculous catch and a shared meal, Jesus draws them in, especially Peter, who carries the weight of his denial. Around a charcoal fire, echoing his failure, Jesus restores Peter not by confronting his failure, but by asking, “Do you love me?” and re-commissioning him to “feed my sheep.” This moment reveals that our identity is not rooted in our failures or achievements, but in being known and loved “beloved” by Christ. From that identity, we are called to continue Jesus’ work in the world.

Conversation Starter: When life has been hard or confusing, what’s something you tend to go back to because it feels familiar or safe?

Prayer: Jesus,
meet us in this moment just as you met the disciples on the shore. Quiet our distractions and remind us that we are known and loved by you. Open our hearts to hear your voice and receive your grace.

Amen.

Read Scripture together: John 21:1–19

3-Question Study Method

Use this method to understand the passage.

1. What is the passage about?
2. What do I learn about God?
3. What is the lesson I learn that I can apply to my life?

Discussion Questions:

- If you placed yourself in this story, which character or moment do you most relate to right now, why?
- What emotions do you notice in this passage (in Peter, the disciples, or yourself), and which one stands out to you most?
- Where do you see the theme of restoration most clearly in this passage, and what makes that moment stand out?
- What part of this story feels closest to your current season of life, and what makes it resonate?
- Peter runs toward Jesus despite his failure instead of hiding. What usually causes you to pull away from God, and what might it look like to move toward Him instead?
- Jesus calls him “Simon, son of John” not based on success or failure. Where are you tempted to define yourself by performance instead of being “beloved”?
- Jesus asks, “Do you love me?” before giving Peter a mission. How does that reshape the way you think about serving or following Jesus?
- What might it look like for you this week to care for or “feed” someone out of Christ’s love?

Memory Verse: John 21:17 (NIV)

“Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.”

Closing Prayer: Lord,

Thank you that we are known fully and still loved deeply by you. When we feel shame or failure, remind us that we are your beloved. Send us out this week to love and serve others, not to prove ourselves, but because we belong to you.

Amen.