

TAKEAWAY:

As we celebrate our graduates today, we're reminded that God's love doesn't depend on our performance. Like Peter, we all stumble. But Jesus meets us exactly where we are, asking not for perfection but for love. His response to Peter's "yes" wasn't judgment—it was a mission: "Feed my sheep."

INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS:

- Share about a significant transition or "graduation" moment in your life (school, job, relationship, etc.). What made it memorable? What did you learn from it?
- Describe the difference between those committed to following Jesus and those who want simply to affiliate themselves with Jesus.

UNDERSTANDING:

Have a group member read John 21:15-19

- How did this sermon help you better understand this passage of scripture? Is there anything that was mentioned during the sermon that stuck out to you?
- How does Jesus's threefold question to Peter about love mirror Peter's threefold denial, and what does this teach us about God's approach to restoration?
- Why do you think Jesus connected Peter's love for Him directly with the call to serve others rather than with personal devotion or worship?
- How does Jesus's prediction of Peter's eventual martyrdom reframe our understanding of what it means to 'follow me'?
- How does this passage challenge the modern tendency to separate loving Jesus from actively serving His church and people?
- How does Peter's progression from declaring he would die for Jesus to humbly stating 'Lord, you know that I love you' reflect spiritual maturity?

APPLICATION:

- How has following Jesus changed your priorities? What are ways this week that you can put Jesus over your earthly desires?
- What is the relationship between experiencing restoration from failure and being equipped to shepherd others through their own struggles? On what level of discipleship, or shepherding others, are you on right now? (Disciple Maker, Being Discipled, Not active at all).

GO DEEPER:

The Go Deeper section has two potential functions. It can supplement your small group discussion by providing extra discussion material.

You can also use these sections as short devotionals to carry you through the week until your next group meeting and to deepen your study of our text from this week. Here are two "Going Deeper" discussion prompts that build upon the above provided questions without repeating them:

- **Following Jesus:** That phrase is another way of saying becoming a disciple of Jesus and discipling others with Christ; fulfilling the Great Commandment and Great Commission. That is, living a lifelong commitment that involves an ongoing relationship with Jesus, conforming to the image of the Son, etc.
- **Discuss its key components** - but not at the expense of praying for the below people – namely, (a) the initial call (Matt 4:18-20; 9:9; 16:24-25; Luke 14:27-28; 9:61-62), (b) our relationship, spiritual light, eternal security (John 8:12; 10:27-28; 12:26), (c) Jesus being both our Lord and Savior (Matt 7:13-28; Rom 10:9-10), and (d) emulating Jesus (WWJD) as well as those godly leaders we know (1 Pe 2:21; 1 John 2:6; 1 Cor 11:1; cf. Eph 5:1-2).

GROUP EXERCISE: Utilize the list of Graduates on the next page and pray for them by name.

12th Grade Girls	12th Grade Guys
Siri	Colton
Victoria	
Zura	Aiden
Alexa	Jackson
Jenna	Sean
Kyla	Randy
Stella	Austin
Molly	Sullivan
Maggie	Devin
Talia	Weston
Jennifer	Sam
Hadlee	Daniel
Meredith	Ian
Caroline	Hansel
Addison	Logan
Emma	Kevin
Mahalet	Cassius
Emma	Brodie
Olivia	Kellen

Charlotte	Mason
Rhylyn	Isaac
Vittoria	Hunter
Emma	Anthony
Elise	
Katelyn	Gavin
Lainee	Isaac
Lilia	Noah
Lilia	Lance
Lila	Tyler
Lilli	Adam
Lilli	Braylon
	Joseph
	John
	Micah