

John 21:15-25

From Conversion to Witness

1. Being rightly motivated for Christ begins with God's word planted in our minds. The seed of His word bears fruit as we believe. Once planted, the growth of the seed is personal.

## A. Begins in our minds.

- The who, what, and why of Jesus
- Seeds of belief. John 3:16, Luke 8

## B. Made personal:

- Sea of Galilee? Matt 4:18
- Miracle fish. Luke 5:8. Peter?
- Love me more than "these"? V15.



• Rom. 10:8-10 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. (ESV)

- Jesus invites each of us to respond because we have experienced his love. People are Jesus' "next step" for His followers.
- A. Threefold confession by Peter:
  - Do you love me . . .? V15, 16, 17
    - Yes, Lord. You know that I love you. (3x)
  - Then feed my lambs (2x); tend my sheep.
- B. Cause and effect: God loves me (cause); Jesus died for me (effect). Jn 3:16, 1 John 4:19
  - Jesus died for me (cause); I will "feed" and "care" for others. (effect)



- 3. Is Jesus calling you to try something "new" in your life? To persevere through an "empty net"? Or, to keep stepping in spite of the difficulty of circumstances?
  - Jn. 21:5-6 Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." 6 He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. (ESV)

## Next Steps

- A. 20 in 24. Take 20 minutes a day to read the Bible and pray in 2024. **Get back on the track!**
- B. Will you pray for an opportunity to share your story of Jesus with one person this coming week?
- C. Will you ask the Holy Spirit to reveal people around you who need to experience the love and goodness of God through your personal reach?

