

Loving God by Serving Others (John 21:1-17)

Four Priorities for Life – Part 2
Life Church St. Louis – June 29, 2014
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Matthew 25:40 (NIV) "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25:45 (NIV) "He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

Galatians 5:13 (NIV) You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.

1. Choose to follow Jesus' _____

1A. Going your way leads to _____

John 21:3-5 (NIV) "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered.

1B. Going Jesus' way leads to _____

John 21:6-7 (NIV) He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.

2. Choose to _____ to Jesus

2A. Jesus _____ for a portion of your abundance

John 21:10-12 (NIV) Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.

2B. Jesus _____ for your needs

John 21:13 (NIV) Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

3. Choose to _____ Jesus

Matthew 26:33 (NIV) Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

3A. Love Jesus with your _____

John 21:15a, 16a, 17a (NIV) When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." ... Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." ... The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." ...

3B. Love Jesus by _____ His church

John 21:15b, 16b, 17b (NIV) Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." ... Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." ... Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

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Study Guide

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Intro. Why does Jesus say that how we treat other believers is how we treat Him (Matthew 25:40, 45)?

What does it mean to serve one another in love (Galatians 5:13)? What is the opposite of serving one another in love?

Why is it vitally important for every believer to be part of a church family (1 John 4:20-21)?

- 1A. Why do you think Peter wanted to go fishing (John 21:3)? What is the significance of Peter catching nothing (John 21:4-5)?
- 1B. What lesson was Jesus teaching Peter through fishing (John 21:6-7, Luke 5:4-11)?
- 1C. How can you apply the lesson Peter learned from Jesus to your own life?
- 2A. What principle is Jesus teaching when He asked the disciples to bring some of the fish they caught to Him (John 21:10-12)?

- 2B. What is the significance of the net not being torn (John 21:11)?
- 2C. When Jesus gave the disciples bread and fish, what did this remind them of (John 6:5-13)?
- 2D. Why does God require us to give back to Him proportionally to what He has blessed us with? How does this story in John 21 relate to the principle of sowing and reaping (Luke 6:38, Galatians 6:7)?
- 3A. What attitude of Peter do you think led to his denial of Jesus (Matthew 26:33)?
- 3B. Why did Jesus ask Peter if he loved Him three times (John 21:15-17, Matthew 26:69-75)?
- 3C. What was Jesus commanding Peter to do in the future to demonstrate his love for Jesus (John 21:15-17)?
- 3D. What are some ways that you can show your love for Jesus by serving others in the church family?
- 3E. Why do you think that some people do not get involved in serving? How can we better help everyone find a place to serve in the church family?