

## Sermon Questions

### John 21

#### Grace and Restoration

1. What stood out to you in this week's message?
2. Read two accounts of Peter's denial in John 18:15-18, 25-27, and Matthew 26:69-75. This is the scene of Peter's greatest failure. Also, read our passage from this morning: John 21: 1-3. In these verses, Peter goes back to his old life after denying Christ. Why does Peter abandon his ministry? What is it about Peter's denial that causes him to feel like he is disqualified?
3. Pastor Jim said that we often turn to other sins to fill the hole of failing God. What is your reaction when you fail God? How do you attempt to fill the hole of failure? Do you run and hide? Do you go out and purposely sin? Do you revert back to your old lifestyle? Go around and share your experience with the others in your group.
4. Read John 21:15-17. Despite our desire to flee when we sin, God is gracious and calls us back to Him. This is evidenced by Jesus restoration of Peter. As a result, Jesus gives Peter the responsibility to lead His people. Why is it important that Jesus asks Peter if he loves Him three times? What does Jesus' public display of forgiveness offer to Peter in light of Peter's public denial of Him?
5. At the end of our service, Pastor Jim invited people to the front who are seeking restoration from the Lord. This was our way of admitting our sin and confessing our need for God's grace. If you are comfortable, share a time when God restored you through His grace. Maybe this happened in the past or it may have happened this week. Either way, take this opportunity to testify about God's grace and encourage those who may be struggling with their sin.
6. Take time to pray together. First, pray individually. Pray and ask God to reveal his grace to you in a specific and concrete way. Second, pray as a group. Pray for those who may be struggling with denying Jesus by their current lifestyle. Ask God to show them His mercy to them so that they would tangibly experience God's restoration. Finally, read and pray through the following Scripture: Psalm 51:10, Ezekiel 36:26, and Romans 3:24.