Oceanside Connect Group Outline Week of November 8th 2015



Jesus and Peter

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep, ¹⁸ Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, vou will stretch out vour hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

Discussion questions from this week's sermon

Peter was one of the 12 disciples, and each member of the disciples had their own personality, characteristics & background (just like us). How would you describe who Peter was and what he was like?

In John 18:4-11, Peter shows us a strong side of his character. When others were around he quickly showed his strength. This harshly contrasts against the weakness of Peter we see in John 18:15-18 and 18:25-27. Peter was a strong leader, but often got it wrong. Have you ever felt a similar highsthen-lows of your faith?

Read John 13:36-38. Before the events in John 18 Jesus pointed out to Peter that he would deny Jesus – why do you think that Jesus pointed this out before the events? Is there comfort that Jesus knows how we will fail?

Have ever felt like Peter did? Ashamed, broken, worthless.

We can only imagine Peter's turmoil after what we read in chapters 13 & 18 – Jesus is now going to speak directly to Peter in lights of these events. **Read John 21:15-17. Why does Jesus ask Peter 3 times "...do you love me?"**

On Sunday Paul said that Jesus "was rewriting Peter's history of his previous denials." If Jesus was so tender with Peter in these verses – is there hope for us in our failings?

Have you caught yourself holding onto past short-comings or mistakes? Why are they so hard to let go?

How did your understanding of the Grace of God change your reality?

Self-pity is not a gift of the Spirit. God wants to give us luggage which is things that will help us on our journey with Him. Self-pity is not good luggage, but baggage that slows us down. Is God's grace enough to cover the things that have made you pity yourself?

What are the "purposes of God" in your life that you need "recommissioning" in? Do you believe that God can re-commission you? What is holding you back?