

Feed My Sheep!

John 21:15-17

Going Beyond the sermon into Scripture preached by Pastor Peter Oh on May 13, 2018

Entering In:

Share how you received your name.
What do you like or dislike about your name?

1. Briefly summarize what Peter boasted in each of the following occasions.

- Matthew 26:33
- Matthew 26:35
- John 13:37

How did he fail to live up to his own words?

Now Peter is back fishing with his friends. To whom did he appear to be showing greater devotion – Jesus or his friends?

2. When Jesus asked Simon Peter, “Do you truly love me more than *these*”, what does “more than *these*” mean? Give a reason for your choice.

- A. more than the other disciples love you
- B. more than you love these other men
- C. more than you love your fishing gear and way of life

To what do you tend to retreat when you have been unfaithful to the Lord?

3. What kind of “Lord” did Peter *not* want Jesus to be? (cf. Matthew 16:22ff)

What issue did Peter have to face and answer before he would be able to function as an apostle?

Do you love Jesus the way he *is*, or is the Jesus you *love* the one you wish him to be?

4. Why did Jesus question Peter about his love for Jesus three times?

- A. Peter gave the wrong answer the first two times
- B. Peter had denied that he knew Jesus three times
- C. Jesus wanted to commission Peter to care for his sheep
- D. Other

Do you agree (or disagree) with what Pastor mentioned in the sermon, “Love for the Lord is the most fundamental qualification for ministry”? Why?

5. Much has been said about the use of two different Greek words for love (*agapao* and *phileo*) in the dialogue between Jesus and Peter. Which of the following do you think best explains the usage of these two words?

- A. *agapao* is a higher form of love than *phileo*
- B. these words are basically synonyms, and just as John varies his other words in the context (sheep/lambs), he does that here as well
- C. *agapao* implies the esteem a recipient has for his benefactor; *phileo* implies the personal affection that exists between members of the same family

When Jesus asked Peter “Do you love (*agapao*) me”, why do you think Peter answered using the different word, “I love (*phileo*) you”?

Why do you think Jesus worded his question differently the third time he asked Peter, “Do you love (*phileo*) me”?

6. Why was Peter hurt when Jesus asked him a third time if he loved him?

Why do you think that each time Peter answered the Lord he said, “*You know that ...*”?

7. To what work is Jesus commissioning Peter in the course of this dialogue?

What does Jesus imply when he uses the word “my” when referring to the sheep/lambs he is asking Peter to feed?

Is there any indication in this text that Peter is being given a higher office than that of the other apostles? Why is the answer to this question important?

Who do you think Jesus would want you to “feed”? What does “feeding” mean?

What are some things that make feeding Jesus’ sheep/lambs more difficult than it might seem on the surface?

In what ways will you work to “feed” Jesus’ sheep from now on?

Living It Out:

Pray that you may love Jesus your Lord more than anyone or anything else.

