

SMALL GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Watch the video summary of the **August 31, 2014 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "The Question of Love."
Please read the sermon passage (John 21:15-25) together out loud.

Small Group Questions (John 21:15-25)

Sermon Outline:

WE ARE CALLED TO . . .

1. **Love Christ, no matter what is required of us** (15-19)
 - a. No matter what you have given up (a great career in fishing!).
 - b. No matter what personal remorse you have (Peter promised he wouldn't, but he denied Christ).
 - c. No matter what your future might hold (Jesus told him he would experience trials and die a difficult death).
2. **Follow Christ, no matter what is experienced by others** (20-25)
 - a. Peter compared his own road to John's road.
 - b. Jesus instructed him to never compare.
 - i. Jesus is telling his story in you. Don't wish away your scars and bruises.
 - ii. Don't languish, wanting the blessings that others seem to have.

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: With regard to your past, what situation of failure on your part requires you to receive grace and forgiveness from God? Have you repented? Have you been able to forgive yourself?
2. Based on #1, above: Jesus tells Peter that he will face a hard road ahead which will include trials and a difficult death. While none of us have a particular prophecy about our future, we do know that disciples of Jesus should expect hardship and persecution in this life. Why should unforeseen trials and troubles NOT make us doubt God's power or love?
3. Based on #2, above: Do you struggle with jealousy when someone else's "spiritual road" seems much easier than your own? How do you deal with that?
4. Based on #2, above: Do you struggle with bitterness (or frustration with God) when your "spiritual road" seems a lot harder than someone else's? How do you deal with that?
5. Based on #2, above: If we love God, we will remain focused on "feeding his sheep" no matter what we have left behind, no matter how we have failed, and no matter what other people are doing. In what way are you currently feeding Jesus' sheep?