

August 20-26

More Than | Do you love me more than these?

Icebreaker: When you hurt another person what is your typical reaction? Do you avoid them? Do you try to reconcile? Do you sweep it under the rug? Why do you react this way?

Read John 21:1-14

- How would the disciples be feeling after seeing the resurrected Christ, but prior to his ascension and the coming of the Spirit? Why would they go fishing?
- See Luke 5:4-11. How does this passage parallel what Jesus does here in John 21?
- What stands out to you in this account between Jesus and the disciples?
- How would the disciples be feeling at this moment?
- What is the importance of Jesus eating a meal with them? How would this ground them in what would have been an unusual encounter?
- What does Jesus eating a meal tell us about his nature after resurrection? Consider what this means about our own bodies after resurrection.

Read John 21:15-19

- Imagine you're Peter. Not long ago you denied you knew Christ. What doubts, fears, regrets might be going through Peter's mind? (Read Matthew 26:31-35)
- Why does Jesus ask the same question 3 times? What are the differences in the questions? In how Peter answers? Why would Peter feel hurt?
- How do these questions parallel Peter's denial?
- What is the point of what Jesus is asking of Peter? What is to be Peter's responsibility? How does this relate to all followers of Jesus?
- How is this whole exchange an act of grace of Jesus toward Peter? What does this tell to us about how he thinks about our own sin and brokenness?
- What in your life can get in the way of loving Jesus more than anything else? When things are off the rails, what is the thing you run back to?
- Why would Jesus end this interaction with the challenge "follow me"?

