

## Sermon Discussion Guide

Encounters with Jesus: Peter's Restoration

John 21:1-22

April 25 & 26, 2020

*This discussion guide is written in three sections. The first is for private/individual reflection. The second is for couples or for small groups who may be meeting via video or phone. The third contains questions for family discussion. As many of you are sheltering in place, we encourage you to continue to read the passage and study it throughout the week. This way you can meditate on new truths each day and discover new things God might teach you in his word.*

### **Section 1: Individual Reflection**

1. A key part of encountering God (and in the case of this week's sermon, encountering Jesus), is to realize our personal ineptitude and inability. What sorts of things have humbled you throughout your life? What continues to humble you? What has God taught you as you've been humbled?
2. Brandon's main point in the sermon was that when you come to the end of yourself, that is when God can use you. What do you think about this statement? How was that true for the disciples in the story? How is it true for you?
3. How does the message of the culture compare to the message of Jesus when it comes to personal ability and strength? Why/how is it that Jesus works through weakness and humility?

4. Brandon explained from the passage how, “Jesus goes to all of the dark and difficult place in our lives and offers us redemption.” How has this been true in your life? What difficult parts of your life story has God redeemed? On the other hand, what parts of your story are resistant to let Jesus into in order that he might redeem it?
  
5. Consider how this sermon affects our head, heart and hands. What does the passage teach us - what knowledge/information do we gain from this passage (head)? What does this passage show us about our sinfulness and how our affections need to be changed by the gospel (heart)? How should this passage change our actions - what do we need to do or think in our everyday life because of these truths (hands)?

### **Section 2: Couple/Small Group Discussion**

1. What portions of the sermon were most significant and helpful to you? Summarize some of your answers from the previous section.
  
2. How has the pandemic and the experience of sheltering in place humbled you?
  
3. The story illustrates how Jesus works in our inability when he gives the disciples credit for the fish that they didn't actually catch. Where are some parts of your life when God has been similarly kind to you. Where has he blessed you and given you things, even though you may have failed and/or you didn't deserve them?

### **Part 3: Family Discussion**

1. Share with your kids your reflections from Sections 1 and 2. Ask them to share some of their highlights from the sermon and see if they can summarize it.

2. Share with your kids some times when you've been "thick headed" and "thick hearted." What did God teach you during those experiences? Ask your kids how they have and will know when they are being thick headed and thick hearted.
  
3. Discuss how as a family you want God to use you. Take this time to write down (or review if you already have them) a handful of core values - ways in which you want God to work in your home and family life.