

HEART OF A SHEPHERD

Life Group discussion guide, week 3

KEY PASSAGES:

John 13:33-35 My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 13:36-38 Simon Peter asked him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus replied, "Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later." Peter asked, "Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." Then Jesus answered, "Will you really lay down your life for me? Very truly I tell you, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!

Luke 22:60-62 Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

John 21:4-6 Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

Luke 5:8-9 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken.

John 21:7,9 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water... When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

John 21:15 Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

John 21:17 He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

John 14:21,23-24 "Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me"... "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me."

John 10:14-16 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

QUESTIONS:

1. Share one non-faith related "mile marker" moment in your life--meaning a time where something notable happened, something that would shape your future from that point on.
2. Now answer the above question, except this time as a faith mile marker.
3. Read John 21:15. Jesus asks Peter if he loves Him more than "these." What are the "these" in our lives that compete with Jesus for being the first love in our life?
4. Read John 14:15, 23-24 According to this passage, what does it mean to really love and follow Jesus?
5. Read the blue highlighted verse above. What do you think Jesus was referring to?
6. Ethan said "It's possible to obey Jesus and not love Him." Do you agree or disagree? Explain.
7. Was there a time God reached into the ashes of your life (like He did with Peter) and brought something beautiful out of it? Talk about that.