

Epitaph

October 26 & 27, 2013

John 21:15-19

- ¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."
- ¹⁶ Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."
- ¹⁷ The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹ Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!" (John 21:15-19 NIV)

Consider & Discuss

- 1. What impressions do you have of Peter? How are you like him? How are you different?
- 2. What strikes you about Peter's encounters with Jesus?
- 3. Which of Peter's interactions with Jesus is most meaningful to you? Why? Which one is most confusing to you? Why?
- 4. Do you see any growth of Peter's faith in Jesus over the years? If so, how do you see his faith growing? If not, why do you think he remained stagnant in his faith?
- 5. Read John 21:15-19. What strikes you about this passage?
- 6. Do you think Jesus was being harsh or kind to Peter in this passage?
- 7. How would you explain the relationship between our appreciation of God's forgiveness and our extending forgiveness to others?

Live It

Make some time this week to prayerfully consider what next step(s) you need to take in your faith journey. Then make a plan to do it!