

Title: Invitation to Hope, Pt 7: “Invitation to Feel & Follow” – John 21:1-25

Big Idea: FEEL love for Jesus and FOLLOW Him into FISHING and FEEDING.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

1. We are invited to FEEL in the presence of Jesus – John 21:1-8

Read John 21:1-8. In verse two, it says that these disciples “were together” when Jesus revealed Himself again after His resurrection. Why do you think Jesus often chooses to reveal Himself to us when we are together with other believers? How have you experienced this?

How do you think Peter was feeling when he threw himself into the sea and swam toward Jesus in verse 7?

In what ways do our emotions reveal what we think or believe about someone or something? What do Peter’s emotions reveal about what he thinks and believes about Jesus?

Pastor Greg shared this quote from Timothy Keller: “Unless you are running away from Jesus or running toward him, you actually don’t really know who He is.” Why is this true?

2. We are invited to FISH for people with Jesus – John 21:9-14.

Read John 21:9-14. In this scene, Jesus seems to be re-creating two prior experiences of Peter – his original call to follow Jesus after a fishing miracle in Luke 5:1-11 and his denial of Jesus around a charcoal fire in John 18. Jesus seems to be laying these two paths in front of Peter and us – “Will you follow Me and be a fisher of men? Or will you deny Me and abandon your calling?” In what ways is it difficult to follow Jesus in fishing for people? What are some examples of how we might deny Him and His calling today?

3. We are invited to LOVE Jesus and HATE sin – John 21:15-17:

Read John 21:15-17. Jesus asks Peter if he loves Him more than the other disciples do. This goes back to Peter’s boasting before Jesus was arrested in Matthew 26:33, “Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.” Why is it so dangerous to compare ourselves to other people when it comes to following Jesus?

Just a couple of weeks ago, Peter denied Jesus three times around a charcoal fire. Now, Jesus questions him three times around a charcoal fire. In verse 17, it says that Peter was “grieved” to

be questioned a third time. Why was it loving for Jesus to cause pain for Peter in confronting his sin?

Jesus is working to produce true repentance in Peter's heart. What is the difference between worldly sorrow and true repentance?

How would you describe the attitude of true repentance toward Jesus? How would you describe the attitude of true repentance toward sin? What impact does true repentance have on how we live?

4. We are invited to FEED His sheep – John 21:15-25

When Jesus says "follow me," He means to feed and tend His sheep. In other words, Jesus calls His disciples who love Him to take good care of the people He entrusts to them. Who has He entrusted to you?

How does love Jesus produce love for His people? How does loving His people produce more love for Jesus?

Read John 21:18-19. This is referring to Peter being crucified for preaching the Gospel. In what ways do you see followers of Jesus being persecuted today?

Regardless of how you die, what do you think it means to glorify Jesus in your death?

"Next Steps" Takeaways – Discuss and pray through the following:

- With God:
 - Repent of sin in the presence of Jesus and renew your love for Him.
- With Others:
 - Identify some ways that your Growth Group can better care for each other.
- On Mission:
 - Continue to pray for and invite unbelievers into the hope you have in Jesus.