



Daily Reflections

June 7, 2019

Scripture

John 21: 15-19

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After Jesus had revealed himself to his disciples and eaten breakfast with them,

he said to Simon Peter,

"Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?"

Simon Peter answered him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."

He then said to Simon Peter a second time,

"Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

Simon Peter answered him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

He said to him, "Tend my sheep."

He said to him the third time,

"Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was distressed that he had said to him a third time,

"Do you love me?" and he said to him,

"Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger,

you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted;

but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands,

and someone else will dress you

and lead you where you do not want to go."

He said this signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God.

And when he had said this, he said to him, "Follow me."

Our Scripture Reflection

Why does Jesus ask Peter three times if he loves him, when once would have served just as well?

Some say it's for added emphasis. Others, that the threefold repetition demonstrates a sort of call-and-response liturgical style.

In fact, asking the question once would not have done just as well. It's possible -- even likely -- that the risen Lord asks the question in this way because he's very aware of the burden of guilt his leading disciple is carrying, for having denied his Lord three times. With each question -- and each "You know that I love you" response -- Jesus graciously permits Peter to walk it back and, one by one, redo the mistakes he's made in the past.

Food for your Journey

Jesus calls us to transform the world. He calls us to spend our lives in the service of the least, the lost and the lonely. That kind of life goes way beyond serving in a local congregation.

The content of true discipleship is found outside of the walls of a church. It is found where people are hurting, where people are hungry, where people are oppressed, where people are denied justice, where people are dying.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear God, I love You Son Jesus. I pray this day for the ability to witness to my love by the good things I say and do for others. May You receive the glory. Amen