

John 21:1-19 What Peter Didn't Get
May 1, 2022

Introduction: We do not have the capacity to understand the depths of God's gracious love.

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may ... grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17.

I. Peter blew it so he assumed he was disqualified from his call.

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church..."
Matthew 16:15-18.

II. Peter failed Jesus in multiple ways.

A. Peter denied knowing Jesus.
Peter declared, "Even if all fall away, I will not...Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." Mark 14:29-31

"About an hour later another asserted, 'Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean.' Peter replied, 'Man, I don't know what you're talking about!' 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 today, you will disown me three times.' And he went outside and wept bitterly. Luke 22:59-62

B. Peter (and the other disciples) didn't believe the promise of the resurrection.
*"He spoke **plainly** about (his death and resurrection.)"* Mark 8:32.

C. Even after the resurrection, Peter still didn't understand much about grace

John 8:1-11 The Woman Caught in Adultery

Jesus...said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." John 8:7-11

Jesus said she was forgiven even though she never asked for it.

Luke 15:11-32. The Prodigal Son

When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am

starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 15:17-18.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.” Luke 15:20

III. In John 21, Jesus had to change the nature of Peter’s relationship with Him.

IV. Jesus had to rebuild this relationship with grace.

- A. Jesus is the initiator or reconciliation
- B. Jesus allows Peter to state his love for Jesus as emphatically as he had denied Him.
- C. Jesus re-calls Peter based solely on grace, not based upon Peter’s performance

*Therefore, there is now no **condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1.*