



**The Week of July 17, 2022**  
**Mending a Fracture in the Family**  
**Jesus Reinstates Peter**  
**Conversation Guide**

**This Week's Take-Aways**

- Humility: (Philippians 2:3-4) I choose to esteem others more highly than myself.
- I show great compassion: (Psalm 82:3-4) I actively show my caring for those who are vulnerable in real and tangible ways.

**Intro Questions:**

- If you have a perfect family, you are excused from today's lesson. Just Kidding! No one does. ;)
- What is the silliest thing you've ever argued about with your siblings? Cousin? Spouse? Children?
- Have you ever allowed an argument or disagreement go on so long that you forgot what you were arguing about?
- Do you find that you become the angriest with those closest to you?

**Key Scriptures**

If you're not familiar with the story of Peter's Betrayal read John 18:15-27

*After this, Jesus revealed himself again to his disciples by the Sea of Tiberias. He revealed himself in this way:*

*Simon Peter, Thomas (called “Twin”), Nathanael from Cana of Galilee, Zebedee’s sons, and two others of his disciples were together.*

*“I’m going fishing,” Simon Peter said to them.*

*“We’re coming with you,” they told him. They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.*

*When daybreak came, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not know it was Jesus.*

*“Friends,” Jesus called to them, “**you don’t have any fish, do you?**”*

*“No,” they answered.*

*“**Cast the net on the right side of the boat,**” he told them, “**and you’ll find some.**” So they did, and they were unable to haul it in because of the large number of fish. The disciple, the one Jesus loved, said to Peter, “It is the Lord!”*

*When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he tied his outer clothing around him (for he had taken it off) and plunged into the sea. Since they were not far from land (about a hundred yards away), the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish.*

*When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish lying on it, and bread. “**Bring some of the fish you’ve just caught,**” Jesus told them. So Simon Peter climbed up and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish—153 of them. Even though there were so many, the net was not torn.*

*“**Come and have breakfast,**” Jesus told them. None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them. He did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.*

*When they had eaten breakfast, Jesus asked Simon Peter, “**Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?**”*

*“Yes, Lord,” he said to him, “you know that I love you.”*

*“**Feed my lambs,**” he told him. A second time he asked him, “**Simon, son of John, do you love me?**”*

*“Yes, Lord,” he said to him, “you know that I love you.”*

*“**Shepherd my sheep,**” he told him.*

*He asked him the third time, “**Simon, son of John, do you love me?**”*

*Peter was grieved that he asked him the third time, “**Do you love me?**” He said, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.”*

*“**Feed my sheep,**” Jesus said. “**Truly I tell you, when you were younger, you would tie your belt and walk wherever you wanted. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will tie you and carry you where you don’t want to go.**” He said this to indicate by what kind of death Peter would glorify God. After saying this, he told him, “**Follow me.**”*

- How many possible miracles do we see in this passage? How would this have validated Jesus' identity for them?
- What was Peter's response to hearing Jesus's voice?
- Why was it significant that Jesus called him Simon Peter and not just Peter?
- Why did Jesus ask Peter to "shepherd his sheep" three times?
- What can we learn from Jesus's reconciliation
- Bonus: Check out the Blue Letter Bible and look at the words used for love in Jesus's questions. What does it mean that He uses two different words for love (agapae and phileo)?

#### Luke 14:26-27

*"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters – yes, and even his own life – he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple."*

- Peter had been following Jesus for three years after hearing this difficult teaching. It would be safe to say, Jesus and His disciples were family.
- What hope does Jesus's forgiveness of Peter offer us for difficulties in our families?
- What can we learn from how Jesus forgives Peter?

#### Luke 15:11-32

*He also said, "A man had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate I have coming to me.' So he distributed the assets to them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered together all he had and traveled to a distant country, where he squandered his estate in foolish living. After he had spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he had nothing. Then he went to work for one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. He longed to eat his fill from the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one would give him anything. When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food, and here I am dying of hunger! I'll get up, go to my father, and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I'm no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went to his father. But while the son was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, threw his arms around his neck, and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I'm no longer worthy to be called your son.'*

*"But the father told his servants, 'Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then bring the fattened calf and slaughter it, and let's celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' So they began to celebrate.*

*"Now his older son was in the field; as he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he summoned one of the servants, questioning what these things meant. 'Your brother is here,' he told him, 'and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'*

*"Then he became angry and didn't want to go in. So his father came out and pleaded with him. But he replied to his father, 'Look, I have been slaving many years for you, and I have never disobeyed your orders, yet you never gave me a goat so that I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him.'*

*"Son,' he said to him, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"*

- The father represents God and sets an example for us in how to deal with breaks in our family relationships.
  - What does the father do while the prodigal son is away?
  - How does the father respond when the prodigal returns home, even before the son repents?
    - What does this tell us about how we should respond to our family?
    - How do we mimic God in responding to difficult family relationships? What are practical ways we can be Christ-like?

#### Ephesians 5:25-6:4

*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her to make her holy, cleansing her with the washing of water by the word. He did this to present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and blameless. In the same way, husbands are to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hates his own flesh but provides and cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, since we are members of his body. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. This mystery is profound, but I am talking about Christ and the church. To sum up, each one of you is to love his wife as himself, and the wife is to respect her husband.*

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, because this is right. Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with a promise, so that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life in the land. Fathers, don't stir up anger in your children, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

- What does grace look like in the family?
- Based on this passage, how do we create a culture of forgiveness and grace in our families?
- How does having a Christ-centered marriage help diffuse animosity in the family?
- How does Christ-centered parenting help diffuse strained relationships with their children?