

# We Have a Purpose

August 28, 2022

## Introduction

Have you seen failure negatively affect someone's ability to move forward? We might draw away to forget, numb pain, hide. Often we turn to what we know best...such as drugs, relationships, running, shutting down. Some might think "it's over" or "there's no hope." In our relationship with God, however, He will not let us alone.... Do you know Jesus? Do you believe you've failed Him somehow? chapter focuses on Peter & Jesus: Restoration

## Main Idea

God restores us. How? Here are two things He does.

- 1) First, He meets us where we are. (1-13)
  - a) getting our attention
    - i) amidst our everyday pursuits (fishing)
    - ii) so we notice His presence (0 fish to 153 fish)
    - iii) we might not be first to recognize His presence
  - b) showing us compassion
    - i) concern & provision for our needs (5, 9)
    - ii) Amplified & NKJV: Have you something to eat?
    - iii) encouragement in our discouragement (11)
  - c) drawing us back (7)
    - i) to personal contact with Him
    - ii) to valuing His gifts...didn't leave fish in water

## Illustration

- 2) Second, He deals with our heart
  - a) failure in our relationship with Jesus is a heart issue

- i) Matt. 15:19, MEV: For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts...
  - greater love for ourselves leads to selfish actions (ex.: denial)
  - greater love for Jesus leads to selfless actions

Stamp: agapao = thoughtful, purposeful love involving entire personality; primarily a decision of mind & will... (intentional, consistent like gravity, PSam)

Stamp: phileo = a warm, natural, more spontaneous sense of feeling & affection—more emotional... (reactionary, coming & going like the tide, PSam)

15: J agape P phileo; Do you love Me more than they do? Yes.

16: J agape P phileo; Do you love Me? Yes.

17: J phileo P phileo; Do you love Me? P grieved...yes.

- ii) humility helps us love better

NOTE: Peter is humbled. Prior: "I will lay down my life for Your sake," John 13:37, MEV).

- iii) now Peter knows what it takes to love Jesus

- b) God-given purpose focuses our heart on what is healthy

- i) including & beyond what we all have
- ii) meant for our giftings, our growth (Peter: a leader)

EX: Feed My lambs. Tend My sheep. Feed My sheep

Tend poimaino = to shepherd, care for, provide for

Feed bosko = teach

Lambs possibly younger-in-the-Lord Christians

Sheep possibly older-in-the-Lord Christians

- iii) Christian life is a life spent for others
- iv) keeps God's love pouring through us

## **Conclusion**

Some of us need to be restored. Some of us know others who need to be restored. Watch for what God does to get our attention. Share it with someone who is struggling because of failure. God helps us move on, forgives us, gives us work.

## **Altar**

Are you stuck because of failure? Struggling to have a heart fully devoted to Jesus?