

JOHN PART XVII
“DO YOU LOVE ME?”
SCRIPTURE: JOHN 20-21
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INTRODUCTION

- The chapter begins with the greatest question mark in human history. Jesus the Messiah?
- It ends with the greatest explanation point.
- Jesus the Messiah!
- John 20:31, “...by believing in Him you will have life...”

I. BELIEF: THE KEY TO EVERYTHING

- Believing appears 100 times in book of John.
- Pis-tos - trusty, faithful
- John 20:19-23, “...Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! “Peace be with you,” ...The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord...”
- Vs. 24 – “One of the twelve disciples, Thomas was not with the others when Jesus came...replied, “I won’t believe it unless I see...”
- Thomas uses a double negative - “I positively will not believe!”
- John 20:26-29, “...suddenly...Jesus was standing among them...²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here...Don’t be faithless any longer. “Believe!” “My Lord and my God!”...Blessed are those who believe without seeing me.”
- Why Believe?
 - By believing in Him you will have life.”
 - Life = *Zoe* - a purpose not just a pulse.
 - Life’s great tragedy isn’t death. Life greatest tragedy is to live without knowing purpose.

II. WHEN WE DON’T BELIEVE/ LIFE WITHOUT BELIEF

- Peter a few months before:

- John 6:68 - “Where else is there to go?!”
- Returning to the familiar will often result in an unfulfilling outcome.
- John 21:6, “...Throw out your net on the right-hand side ...they couldn’t haul in the net because there were so many fish in it.”
- John 21:7, “...It’s the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard ...jumped into the water, and headed to shore.”

III. A DAY OF DECISION

- Peter in the midst of failure, uncertainty, self-hate, insecurity is faced with a decision.
- John 21:15-17 - Jesus Questions Peter:
 - Question #1: Simon Peter do you love me more than these? Agape me = love me dearly
 - Questions #2: “Do you agape me?”
 - Question #3 - “Do you phileo me?”
- Jesus is challenging Peter: It’s a test, and in the test is the restoration that Peter needs.

IV. FINDING SUCCESS IN FAILURE

- Failure isn’t determined by what we’ve done, it’s determined by what we do on the other side.
- Do we trust and obey? Or Not?
- Why/ how?? But God...
- Luke 18:27 - What is impossible with God?
- The picture is of a humble man surrendered to the Lord.
- Our call is to remain faithful, to literally *believe in* what He has called us out of and pointed us toward.

CLOSE

- Do You Love Me?
- Then Believe, be faithful to what I have spoken.
- John 20:31, “But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah...by believing in Him you will have life...”