

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor: Pastor Dwight Benoit
Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon
Lesson # 8 April 18, 2023 – April 23, 2023

Unit II: Experiencing the Resurrection

Subject: Restored Friendship

Text: John 21: 15-19

Key Verse: When they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, yea, LORD; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs (John 21: 15, KJV).

Lesson Pointers:

- 1) Restored Minister (John 21: 15-17)
- 2) Martyred to Glory (John 21: 18-19)

Introduction:

Broken fellowship with those we love often leads to guilt and shame and is very difficult to repair. So, the question arises, how does one rebuild their broken fellowship and overcome the feelings of being shamed. Having fellowship with JESUS CHRIST is the answer; you see, when one is in fellowship with JESUS CHRIST it makes it easier to restore their fellowship with their loved ones. JESUS CHRIST restored Simon Peter broken fellowship to wholeness by showing love to him and challenging Simon Peter to fulfill his missional purpose. If we, Christians show love to those who we have broken fellowship with by forgiving them with the love of GOD and not bring the brokenness up again, then we would not have to feel guilt or ashamed.

Lesson Pointer # 1

- Restored Minister (John 21: 15-17)

The seven disciples having completed the breakfast fellowship, JESUS CHRIST addressed Peter with his given name: Simon, son of Jonas. This tone for which JESUS CHRIST used was to show the necessary role that Peter was to perform in the early church. So, JESUS CHRIST started Peter's restoration and reaffirmation with the question, Do you love me more than these. JESUS CHRIST knew that Peter needed to know the truth concerning his future leadership role. So, Peter responded by saying that he did love JESUS CHRIST. Therefore, JESUS CHRIST gave HIS first commission to feed HIS lambs, this was for Peter to supply spiritual nourishment for all believers, especially the most vulnerable and spiritually immature (John 21: 15). Again, JESUS CHRIST said the second time to Peter, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter responded by saying yea LORD thy knowest that I love Thee. JESUS CHRIST commission him (Peter) feed my sheep (John 21: 16). JESUS CHRIST said to Peter the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because JESUS CHRIST said unto him the third time, lovest thou me? Peter responded by saying LORD thy knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. JESUS CHRIST commission him, feed my sheep (John 21: 17).

Restored Friendship!

Lesson Pointer # 2

- **Martyred to Glory (John 21: 18-19)**

JESUS CHRIST publicly restored and recommissioned Peter and informed him that he would lose his life in the future because of his commitment to HIM (John 21: 18). In this life, as Christians, we have to stand firm to GOD’S WORD, and turn not to the right or to the left, but stay committed to JESUS CHRIST; HIS word, will, and way. Christians are to love the LORD above all, Luke 14: 33 says, “So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.” You see, it cost to be a disciple of JESUS CHRIST; why, because JESUS CHRIST paid it all. JESUS CHRIST said in John 15: 13, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” Peter now having been restored by JESUS CHRIST, now, he could emulate his friend JESUS CHRIST, giving his life for JESUS CHRIST’S cause. Peter would die as a prisoner, by being crucified upside down, and would become a martyred to the glory of JESUS CHRIST. Peter was commanded to follow JESUS CHRIST and to remain faithful unto JESUS CHRIST at all costs (John 21: 19). It is essential that in the Christians life to remain faithful, and to serve JESUS CHRIST, and to stay committed to HIM as a mark of discipleship no matter what the costs may be. John 10: 27 says, “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.” Following JESUS CHRIST requires one to willingly submit to HIS will, and obeying HIM, and becoming living replicas of JESUS CHRIST character and righteousness. In doing so, we Christians are to use the spiritual gift that has been bestowed upon us as believers, our faith in JESUS CHRIST will glorify HIS Holy and righteous name (as Peter and others did) until HE returns.

Restored Friendship!