

## ***“How Much Do You Love Jesus?”***

**INTRODUCTION:** Jesus is testing Peter’s LOVE for Him.

- It’s easy to SAY we love Jesus ... we’re the “*Bride of Christ*”.

- **John 21:15-17** – Jesus confronts Peter publicly.

- Peter had publicly declared his love and loyalty to Jesus, but denied knowing Jesus ... 3 TIMES!

- Have you ever “*failed*” Jesus ... wondered how He could love you?

- Like Peter, Jesus wants to RESTORE you back into fellowship.

**21:15** – “*Simon*” – Peter is acting like the old Simon.

**21:15** – “*more than these*” ...

1 Than These THINGS? ... What do you put ahead of Jesus?

2 Than These DISCIPLES Love Me? ... Jesus never COMPARES your love with anybody else’s love – Mt. 26:33, Rom. 14:12

2 Than You Love These Disciples? ... Is anybody drawing your love away from Jesus?

**21:15** – Jesus uses “*agape*” – “*Really, really, really, really LOVE Me?*”

- Peter uses “*phileo*” - ‘*to be fond of, a friend, to like and respect*’.

- Peter’s afraid to commit ... afraid he might fail Jesus again.

**21:15** – “*feed*” – ‘*to graze*’ – “*Playground Monitor*”, not a “*Coach*”.

- Even with a limited “*love*”, you can serve the Lord.

**21:16** – “*tend*” – ‘*to supervise, to rule over*’ ... like a “*Coach*”.

- Peter isn’t living up to his POTENTIAL ... Are you?

- Are you doing what God has CALLED you to do?

**21:17** – Jesus uses Peter’s word for “*love*” ... “*phileo*”.

- Jesus wants Peter’s confession to equal his heart.

**21:17** – Peter is “*grieved*”, and wants Jesus to know that his love for Him is genuine.

**21:17** – “*Graze My Adult Sheep*” – Jesus is putting Peter back into service, to do whatever Jesus calls him to do.

**CONCLUSION:**

- Jesus asks ... “*How much do you LOVE Me?*”

- Every decision, choice we make, answers this question.

- If you LOVE Him, just serve Him in the ministry He has called you to do ... your LOVE will GROW!

- Jesus wants us to EXAMINE our LOVE for Him.