

*Series:* Believing and Living; *Sermon:* **Do You Love Me?**

*Delivered by:* **Josh Moody**, senior pastor; *Date:* April 18, 2021

***Bible text explored: John 21:15-19***

<sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup>He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” <sup>19</sup>(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.” [ESV]

***Review and application:***

1. What (*verse 15*) is the significance of Jesus addressing Peter not by the special title he had given him, but by his family name?  
(See *Matthew 16:13-18*.)  
Why did Jesus begin his question about Peter’s love for him with the added phrase “more than these”? (See *Matthew 26:33-35*.)
2. In his first re-commissioning of Peter, what part of his flock is Jesus calling him to nurture?
3. In the first repetition of his question to Peter (*verse 16*), how is he assigned to care for the Good Shepherd’s flock? (See *John 10:1-18*.)  
How does a shepherd lead his flock to green pastures and protect them from wolves? (See *Psalms 23:1-4*.)
4. With Jesus’ third asking of the question (*verse 17*), Peter now realizes that Jesus is deliberately mirroring his three-time denial. Why did this upset or hurt him?  
But what made this encounter a reconciling action rather than a shaming?  
(See, in *1 Peter 5:2-4*, how Peter indirectly summarized for elders his own response to forgiveness and restoration imparted to him by Jesus.)
5. How (*verses 18-19a*) did Jesus highlight the template for every shepherd of his flock?  
How did he preview for Peter what sacrificing himself for his sheep would look like? (The words “dress you” could also be rendered “bind you,” and crucifixion victims were often tied to their crosses.)
6. What (*verse 19b*) is the take-away for Peter from this one-to-one encounter?  
What is the cross-shaped take-away for me?  
Why does loving the Shepherd require putting the needs of God’s people above your own?