



questions for reflection

series: "Things We Need to Hear Jesus Say"

We know that often we only hear what we want to hear when someone is talking, but what about Jesus? Do we already have an idea of what he might be saying to us before we begin to listen? Do we truly listen and hear what Jesus says? This seven-week Lenten series will engage moments in Scripture where Jesus speaks words we need to hear.

part 6:

"Feed my sheep"

by Dave Terpstra on Tuesday March 31, 2009

Have you had any significant experiences through picking up and giving up things for Lent this year?

How do you know when you love someone romantically? A friend? A family member?

How do you know when they love you?

How do you know that you love God?

How do you know that God loves you?

Human relationships hold the risk of being hurt or experiencing unmet expectations. How do you see parallels in having a relationship with God?

If you've turned your back on God through your actions or attitudes, how do you know that he still loves you?

How do you know that you still love him?

God sometimes asks us to leave or set aside things that we love or value because of our love of him. Why would he do this? Have you ever experienced this?

Matthew 26:31-35 and 69-75 tells Peter's story of disowning Jesus.

- Have you ever broken pledges or promises you've made to God?
- How did that impact your relationship with him?
- Are there patterns or choices in your life where you still disown Jesus in a sense?
- If you view sin patterns that way, how does it impact the way you think about them and deal with them?

In John 21, after Peter disowns Jesus, Jesus restores him.

- How does he restore him? Why?
- How have you experienced God's restoration in your life?
- Where are you asking for God to restore you still?

Jesus tells Peter to feed his sheep – to take care of other followers. Throughout the Scriptures, God has called each of his followers to do the same thing.

- How has he wired you, uniquely, to care for other followers of Jesus? If you're not sure yet, reflect on some possible way based on how you are helpful to people in general.
- How do you feed sheep here at TNL?

We don't need organized programs in the church to care for other Christians, we only need to be Christians ourselves who are looking for the needs of others. In that light, talk to God about who he might be asking you to take care of at TNL, and how.

