

Tips and Tricks:

The sermon notes are designed to be used as a guide for discussion. Don't feel like you have to use every question. Some questions will take a while to work through and others will be over in a few seconds.

1. Don't teach the lesson. The sermon was just preached. Just ask the questions and let everyone else talk.
2. Let other people ask questions. It's OK to go "off topic" for a while. Sometimes those conversations are more interesting anyway!
3. Have fun. Don't forget to laugh and crack up. Relationships, not curriculum, are the heartbeat of our ministry. Remember: We have to build a relational bridge strong enough to hold the truth!

Agenda for Group Time

1. Ice Breaker - Lighthearted ice breaker question (10 minutes)
2. Discussion - Bible study, sharing and application. (25 Minutes)
3. Prayer - Pray together (5 minutes)
4. Planning - Remember to talk about what's coming up.

Icebreaker: What is one of the most awkward situations you can remember being in?

"After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias," (Jn. 21:1)

1. After the Whole Ministry of Jesus

Question: What are some of the details of this scene that connect back to other things in the ministry of Jesus with the disciples?

Question: Who else is in the boat with Peter? Describe some of the things that we know about them and their experience with Jesus.

- See John 11:14-16
- See John 1:45-49
- See John 18:10

2. After the Denial

Question: What are some of the details of this scene that connect back to other things we'd seen in Peter's story? How might Jesus' questions remind Peter of his denial?

Discussion: Has there ever been a time when you've been betrayed or stabbed in the back? What was your feeling of seeing that person again?

Discussion: How was it the grace of Jesus that didn't just let Peter bury his failure (pretend like it never happened)?

Discussion: How does the cross make it unthinkable that Jesus wouldn't return to His disciples (even after they'd abandoned Him)?

3. After Things Stayed the Same

Question: What were some of the expectations that the disciples had regarding what Jesus was up to in the world? How did it go very differently?

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.'

Discussion: Why do you think Jesus questions Peter with *these* questions? How does this connect with the ministry of Peter later in his life?

Discussion: How is forgiveness different from reconciliation? How does Jesus reconcile with Peter?

Discussion: Are Christians required to pursue reconciliation with people who have done us wrong? Or is forgiveness enough?

Discussion: What are some of the ways that things can go wrong for our lives following Jesus and our life together as a church when something other than the love of Jesus becomes the main thing propelling us forward?