

Failure isn't Fatal!

Campaign video/Welcome

Vision: Helping people follow Christ and experience the hope of redemption.

What does redemption mean?

"The action of saving or being saved from sin, error, or evil." The action of regaining or gaining possession of something in exchange for payment, or clearing a debt."

Ephesians 1:7, "In Him we have redemption, through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."

Prophecy, staff retreat- Redemption!

Luke 22:54-65

- Where do we go from here?
- How does God respond to our failures?

Read: John 21

1. Jesus took the initiative.

Explain: Jesus did not wait for Peter to come looking for Him, Jesus went looking for Peter. Jesus is waiting on the shore before the sun comes up. This was not the first time Jesus pursued Peter.

Argue: **Luke 5:1-11**, Jesus did this with all the disciples and Paul! **Acts 9:1-6**

Illustrate: How did Jesus find you? Jesus came for me, over and over again! RA Leader, Youth Pastor, Football Coach, Joyce Montgomery, Dr. Bennett. You probably got here because God sent someone to find you. Jesus took the initiative.

Argue: **Luke 15:1-7, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21**

Apply: This is what Jesus did for us and what we need to do for those we love!

2. Jesus demonstrates his generosity.

Explain: Did you catch anything? Often, we have to come to the end of ourselves, to give up before we turn to Jesus. They worked hard all night and caught nothing.

Illustrate: Often, we wonder, why am I suffering? Sometimes, God wants us to surrender, to give up, to admit, I need God. Often, God is trying to change the direction of our life.

- **College-** business major to ministry
- **Seminary-** Legalism to life. Dr. Bennett.
- **Marriage-** Tina tagging along to Tina being cherished.
- **Corinth-** Pride/immaturity to humility/appreciation.

Throw your net out on the right side. When Peter abandons his independence and follows Jesus his net is full. God will always provide what we need for what He has called us to do.

Generosity allows your job and your money to have purpose. In fact, 153 large fish would have been worth about one year's wages. They did not realize it at the time but this catch would fund their ministry over the next few months. This gave Peter's work, purpose!

Without Jesus, they caught nothing. Bring Jesus into the story, they bring in their best catch ever because their job had purpose and Jesus blessed it.

Illustrate: Hobby Lobby gives away 50% of their profit every year to ministries who are preaching the gospel here and around the world. Over 1,000 stores, debt free, 8 billion in annual revenue. David Green, the company's founder, gives away 50% of the profit each year. Despite that, David, according to Forbes, in 2024 was worth about 14 billion but he just gave it all away so he is not on the 2025 Billionaire list. His job has purpose!

Apply: You do not have to be a billionaire for your work to have purpose. Tina and I are giving about 15% and hoping to double our giving for Build His House. We both just got our real estate license, Tina is going to be selling Real Estate and I am going to be doing some coaching in order to create the additional income to give the way we want to give. This gives our work purpose. **We are Building His House!**

- Giving makes you Happy
- Giving sets your heart free
- **Giving gives your work and money Purpose!**

3. Jesus is full of grace.

Explain: How do I know? Peter could not wait on the others. He jumps out of the boat and swims to the shore. He cannot wait to see Jesus. Think about a time when you really blew it, who did you want to see? Who did you run to? Maybe you are still hiding.

Argue: **Genesis 3**, They are hiding, God is not hiding. God goes looking for them, draws them out, God makes a sacrifice, God offers grace. In our story, Jesus is the sacrifice!

Luke 15- Prodigal ran home to the father but did not bother visiting his brother. The elder brother is so self-righteous, he is judging both the prodigal and his father for showing grace. Definition, can we be the place people run to? But Allen, we believe in holiness. I believe in holiness. Grace is the only path to holiness.

Apply: Community groups- not in the service but in a group that is confidential, we are not fixing each other, we are listening, loving, encouraging and when necessary, helping them find the help they need. Spiritual practices, relationships, in a culture of grace produces change.

4. Jesus redeemed Peter's life!

Explain: Peter failed and Peter assumed his ministry days were over. In the NT there are three words which are all translated love. Agape (sacrificial love/God's love) Philo (brotherly love/friendship) eros (Erotic love) In **John 15:13**, Jesus said, "Greater love has no man than this, that he lays down his life for his friends." Word here is agape. At the last supper, **John 13:37**, Peter said, "I am ready to die for you." He was claiming, agape love. I will lay down my life for you. Peter denies Jesus and when Jesus comes for Peter he asks Peter:

Monthly Practice: Silence/Solitude

- **Jesus:** Do you love (agape/God's love) me, more than these? (Peter's claim)
- **Peter:** You know I (Philo/brotherly love) you. (No claim now of being superior)
- **Jesus:** Do you love (agape/God's love) me?
- **Peter:** You know I (Philo/brotherly love) you.
- **Jesus:** Do you (Philo/brotherly love) me?
- **Peter:** Lord, you know everything. You know that I (Philo/brotherly love) you."

Peter, I love you and you do not have to earn it, you do not have to be better than the other disciples, you do not have to die for me, I died for you.

- Care for the weak, young lambs, guide and tend to the sheep, feed and shepherd the entire flock. Peter- now that your pride is shattered, I can use you.

Illustrate: Definition Church gave me another chance 25-years ago. Look what God has done.

Quote: Failure isn't fatal.

Argue: 1 Peter 5-11

Redemption always requires a sacrifice.

Ephesians 1:7, "In Him we have redemption, through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."

Invitation