

Do You Love Me More Than These? (John 21:1-25)



1 Peter 5:5b-6 - All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

1. Jesus reminded Peter of the pride he used to have before Jesus was killed.

John 21:15 - When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?”

Possibilities

1. Speaking of Peter’s fishing equipment.
2. Speaking about the other disciples.

2. Jesus reminded Peter of how low he had fallen.
 - a) It seemed like Jesus was questioning whether or not Peter really loved him.
 - b) It reminded Peter of how he denied Jesus three times.

2. Jesus reminded Peter of how low he had fallen.

Why did Jesus do this to Peter?

▶ You can't have real reconciliation and forgiveness unless you get all of the issues out on the table.

3. Jesus put Peter in a position that he didn't deserve.

- ▶ Feed my lambs.
- ▶ Take care of my sheep.
- ▶ Feed my sheep.

4. Jesus challenged Peter in the exact area where he failed before.

John 21:18-19 - I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

5. Jesus told Peter to get rid of any jealousy and to concentrate on following him.

John 21:20-22 - Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This is the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”) When Peter saw him, he asked..

5. Jesus told Peter to get rid of any jealousy and to concentrate on following him.

...“Lord, what about him?” Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.”

Conclusion

- 1) Prideful people can often be very judgmental.
- 2) Prideful people often have a hard time forgiving others.
- 3) Prideful people can often have a hard time asking for forgiveness.
- 4) Prideful people are in danger of having a hard fall.