

# The Restoration of Peter

(Part 2)

<sup>1</sup> *Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way:* <sup>2</sup> *Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together.* <sup>3</sup> *“I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.* <sup>4</sup> *Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.* <sup>5</sup> *He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered.* <sup>6</sup> *He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.* <sup>7</sup> *Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.* <sup>8</sup> *The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.* <sup>9</sup> *When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.* <sup>10</sup> *Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.”* <sup>11</sup> *So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn.* <sup>12</sup> *Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord.* <sup>13</sup> *Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.* <sup>14</sup> *This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.”* (John 21:1-14)

The Lord’s plan for each and everyone to have life and have it to full and that is the reason why God wants to restore each and everyone who had gone astray. God sent His Son the Lord Jesus Christ to bring us back to Him and to have a real life in His presence. Jesus died on the cross for our sins; He was buried and rose from the death on the third day to give us eternal life. Jesus every day is looking and searching for His sheep to find them and bring them back to Himself. God’s plan of restoration is to restore back all the blessings of God that He had ordained for each and every one of us.

Jesus in the above passage is looking for Simon to bring him back to God’s service and to restore Him. Christ today is doing the same to restore people and workers back to Him. Christ wants us, we who constitute His church, to be hand in hand with Him to do this noble task. As we move forward with the Lord we carry the same mind and have the same compassion in our hearts to restore people back to the blessings of God and His plan for them. We need to understand the people and aid them in their lives and struggles so they can be restored back to their life for God.

**6- Give the people the right advice:** As Peter was in the dilemma, the whole night working but without fish; the people now are the same, they lack the sense of direction, and they need to know the right advice in order for them to solve their problems. As we move with the Lord toward the people we have the Word of God and the anointing of the Holy Spirit, then we can give to the people the right advice and the sound council to help

them to solve their troubles. Therefore know and understand the people problems and give them the crucial advice to solve their difficulties.

**7- Pray for Miracles so people will believe and come back to the Lord:** Simon Peter and the other disciples they were able to see the Lord after the miraculous catch of the fish as they exclaimed, **“It is the Lord!”** It was not a routine thing to count how many fish they caught, but they counted the number to record the wonder of Jesus miracle, and how with a 153 fish the nets still not torn. We need to pray that God will do miracles in the lives of those who had gone astray so that might believe and come back to the Lord and be restored to the church.

**8- Encourage and appreciate the people effort for that is part of the restoration process:** Jesus told His disciples when He appeared to them, **“Bring some of the fish you have just caught.”** He did not tell them, ‘Bring me some of the fish that I gave you.’ He gave them encouragement in appreciating their effort to work and do something good. This will help much in the restoration of the people as we encourage them by appreciating even their little contribution to go on and serve the Lord.

**9- Practice charity and hospitality:** Jesus prepared a breakfast to them, He said to them, **“Come and have breakfast.”** Fellowship of love and showing hospitality and concern it help to restore the backslider and bring them back to God. They need to feel and see someone have love and concern toward them; that help them to feel their importance for the Lord and for us as a church.

**10- They are important to be restored for the work of God:** **“When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.” Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.” The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”** (John 21:15-17) Jesus repeatedly asked Simon if He truly love Him, that was not a challenge but to tell Simon his important to the Lord and to His work. John 21 is very important in the bible otherwise we cannot see Peter in Acts 2 preaching the gospel to the whole city of Jerusalem.

**My dear and beloved:** We need to do the same to go forward with the Lord and bring people back to God and restore them to Him and to the work of God in His church as it is written, **“Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.”** (Isaiah 58:12) God had called you to be partner with Him; to humble down and go along with Him to restore people back to His plan and to do His work and His will as you agree to pray.

**My Prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. O Lord gives me more humility and directs me to those who had gone far away from you. Lord teaches me and equips me to go to them and brings them to you. Help me Lord to serve you and to be a blessing to other. I commit myself to go on and do this task, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.*