

# John 18-21

## Embracing His Hope

### “A Picture of Hope”

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### Digging Deeper

#### Peter's First Encounter with Jesus

##### **John 1:40–42**

<sup>40</sup> Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. <sup>41</sup> The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). <sup>42</sup> And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

#### Jesus' Prediction of Peter's Denial

##### **John 13:36–38**

<sup>36</sup> Simon Peter asked him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus replied, "Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later." <sup>37</sup> Peter asked, "Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." <sup>38</sup> Then Jesus answered, "Will you really lay down your life for me? I tell you the truth, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!"

##### **Luke 22:31–34**

<sup>31</sup> "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. <sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." <sup>33</sup> But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death." <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

#### Peter's Denial

##### **John 18:17–27**

<sup>17</sup> "You are not one of his disciples, are you?" the girl at the door asked Peter. He replied, "I am not." <sup>18</sup> It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself. <sup>19</sup> Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. <sup>20</sup> "I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret." <sup>21</sup> Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said." <sup>22</sup> When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby struck him in the face. "Is this the way you answer the high priest?" he demanded. <sup>23</sup> "If I said something wrong," Jesus replied, "testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?" <sup>24</sup> Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest. <sup>25</sup> As Simon Peter stood warming himself, he was asked, "You are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it, saying, "I am not." <sup>26</sup> One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with him in the olive grove?" <sup>27</sup> Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a rooster began to crow.

# Student Journal

## Session 6

### Cross Checking

Are you like Peter in John 21? Before you read the Scriptures below, take a stab at answering these questions.

**Do you ever feel like you've let Jesus down? If so, in what way?**

- I haven't really stood up for Him.
- I haven't spent much time with Him.
- I haven't even thought much about Him lately.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**In what ways do you feel inadequate or unable to be used by God?**

- I've made some bad mistakes.
- I have a hard time following through with my commitments.
- I cave easily to temptation.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Here are some passages from Paul and Peter, two guys who had every reason to feel inadequate because of past failures. As you read their words from your Bible, fill the left column with reasons why someone might feel inadequate or unable to be used by God. In the right column, write the reasons why God was able to use them (and us!) in spite of their mistakes.

	Potential Reasons for Inadequacy	Reasons Why God Could Use Them
1 Corinthians 1:21-31		
2 Corinthians 12:1-10		

	<b>Potential Reasons for Inadequacy</b>	<b>Reasons Why God Could Use Them</b>
<b>1 Timothy 1:15–17</b>		
<b>2 Peter 1:1–15</b>		

Now look back at what you wrote in the left column. How are you like Peter and Paul? Do any of these descriptions apply to you? If so, how does the info in the right column give you hope?

Peter (a former failure in his own eyes) said that Jesus has given us everything we need for life and godliness (see 2 Peter 1:3). If you've accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, *this means you!* Look back at John 21:15–17 on your Scripture sheet, and write your name above Peter's name ("Simon son of John") wherever it appears. What is Jesus saying to you?

## John 21

- 1** Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way:
- 2** Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together.
- 3** “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.
- 4** Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.
- 5** He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered.
- 6** 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.
- 7** 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.
- 8** The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.
- 9** When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.
- 10** Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.”
- 11** Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn.
- 12** Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord.
- 13** Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.
- 14** This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.
- 15** When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

# Student Scripture Sheet

## John, chapter 21

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**16** Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

**17** 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.” Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.

**18** 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.”

**19** Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

**20** Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”)

**21** When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?”

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

**23** Because of this, the rumor spread among the brothers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?”

**24** This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

**25** Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.