

The Joy of Restoration

RESTORE: My Relationship with God

Introduction:

- A. Restoration: “The act or process of returning something to its original condition by repairing or cleaning it.” “The act of bringing back something that existed before.”
- B. People spend a lot of time and money trying to restore things back to the way they once were (homes, cars, photos, self).
- C. The greatest restoration we can work toward is our restoration with God and our relationship to Him.

Peter’s Relationship with the Lord

- A. Peter enjoyed a close relationship to the Lord for 3 years. He was chosen by the Lord Himself and served in the Lord’s inner circle (Matt. 17:1-8; Matt. 26:36-46).
- B. He was one of the leaders among the apostles.
- C. He felt so close to Jesus that he even rebuked him (Matt. 16:21-23).

Peter’s Rebellion from the Lord

- A. Peter pledged he would never fall away and turn his back on the Lord (Matt. 26:33-35).
- B. Peter did not just deny his Lord and friend, he insulted him by cursing and swearing he did not know Jesus (Matt. 26:69-75).
- C. Peter had severed the greatest relationship one could ever enjoy.

Peter’s Restoration to the Lord

- A. Peter confessed his love for Jesus (Jn. 21:15-17).
- B. Peter acknowledged his wrong. Jesus asked Peter if he loved (agape) him but when Peter used the word love, he used the word phileo (friendly or brotherly). He knew he couldn’t use the word agape based on his previous actions. He was acknowledging his wrong.
- C. Peter obtained forgiveness. Why did Jesus ask Peter three times about his love? Jesus was giving him a second chance. Peter’s relationship to the Lord was important (Mk. 16:7).
- D. Peter served the Lord from that day forward (Acts 2:14-47).

Conclusion:

- A. Like Peter, we are all going to fail in our walk with God. What is important is to remember not to allow the failure to defeat us.
- B. If we want to restore our relationship with God, we must first admit our mistakes and shortcomings (Jam. 5:16). WHY? Confessing can lead to healing.
- C. Our relationship with God can only be restored through the blood of His son (Jn. 14:6; Gal. 3:27).