

# Do You Love Me?

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## *John 21:15-22*

- I. **Love starts with loyalty.**
  - A. Only John includes this story—“the one Jesus loved” (John 13:21-27; 19:25-27; 21:20-22).
  - B. Jesus gave Peter three chances to declare his loyalty and clear the air. Then he warns him where loyalty is ultimately going to take him (John 21:18-19).
    - 1. Each of us has a unique loyalty path (John 21:20-22).
    - 2. Another way to think of loyalty is honor or putting God first. God has definite opinions about this (Malachi 1:6-8, 10, 11; 2:13-16; 3:6-10).
      - a. Our relationships (Matthew 6:12-15; 7:1-3)
      - b. Money and provision (Matthew 6:19-27, 31-34)
      - c. God’s cause in the earth (Malachi 1:11; Matthew 28:18-20; Matthew 24:14)
  
- II. **Our greatest love for Jesus comes from our deepest failures.**
  - A. Our failures serve to humble us and release compassion toward others (Luke 22:31-34).
    - 1. Why did Satan ask to sift Peter like wheat?
    - 2. The one with the greatest call is to be the one with the greatest love (Matthew 16:15-19; John 21:15).
    - 3. Paul, the terrorist (I Corinthians 15:9-10)
  - B. The beautiful gift of repentance (II Corinthians 7:9-11)
  - C. Whoever has been forgiven little loves little (Luke 7:44-50).
  
- III. **Do you like God?**
  - A. Jesus knew the disciples needed something more to fully love Him and others (Acts 1:4-8).
    - 1. Power was not the only thing given at Pentecost.
    - 2. DNA of the Early Church (Acts 2:42-47; 4:32)
  - B. “We love, because he first loved us” (I John 4:13-21).
  - C. Paul explains how God transforms our hearts into loving God (Romans 5:5; 8:14-16; Ephesians 1:14-20).

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