

DAY 2



Jesus Restores Peter John 21:1-17 (Focus 15:17) I am invited even when I mess up!

Read: John 21:1-17 (Focus 15:17)

Jesus and Peter

¹⁵ When they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

Simon replied, “Yes, Lord, you know I love you.”

Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.”

¹⁶ Jesus asked a second time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Simon replied, “Yes, Lord, you know I love you.”

Jesus said to him, “Take care of my sheep.”

¹⁷ He asked a third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was sad that Jesus asked him a third time, “Do you love me?” He replied, “Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.”

Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.”

Reflect:

It's something everyone can relate to...messing up. You know that feeling when you realized you were wrong and hurt a relationship with someone you cared about? These moments of hurt can go in all different directions, but the best case of all scenarios is forgiveness with the one you hurt. In today's story, Peter, one of Jesus' closest disciples and friend messes up. Peter often spoke before thinking and in today's story he does that again by denying knowing Jesus 3 times. After realizing what he had done Peter is devastated. Surely Peter was out as one of Jesus followers after this. However, less than a week later Jesus forgives Peter in a very meaningful way and is reminded that no matter how bad you mess up you are still invited to follow Jesus.

Act:

As a family read stories from the Bible tonight that talk about the other times that Peter messed up. (Matthew 14:2-33; Peter takes his eyes off Jesus) (Matthew 16:13-28; Peter misunderstands why Jesus has come)

Talk about the times you've messed up. Was it hard to admit you messed up? Is there something you've done that you need to be forgiven for? Is there someone you need to forgive? Remind you kids that no matter how hard we try we are all going to mess up sometimes, it's just part of being human. What's important is what we do after we mess up. We ask Jesus for help, we ask for forgiveness, and we make amends. Remember that "I am invited even when I mess up" and Jesus always loves you!

Fun Things to Do:

#1 Cut a large heart out of paper and write Jesus on it. Using post-it notes or scrap paper think of some things that we do that are wrong and write them down on the paper. Some suggestions are:

- Said something mean to someone.
- Cheated when playing a game.
- Lied.
- Disobeyed a parent/grandparent/adult.
- Acted selfishly.
- Made someone feel left out.
- Made fun of the way someone looked.
- Yelled at someone.
- Cut in line.

Place the notes on the heart and stand about 10 ft away from the heart. Place a small trash can next to the heart. Each family member will run to the heart grab a note and say "I am invited even when I mess up! Then crumple up the note, throw it away, run back and tag the next person to run to the heart. Keep playing until all the notes have been removed from the heart. Jesus loves us and forgives us when we make mistakes! How does it make you feel to know that you are forgiven?

#2 Grab some playdough and craft supplies (chenille stems, straw pieces, google eyes, etc.) and have each member of your family create something with their playdough. After a couple of minutes tell everyone to stop and explain that it's time to mess up their creations by smushing them. Count to 3 and then have them flatten their creation (it's ok if they don't want to). Talk about how their creations are all messed up but that's ok because we can build them again. How did you feel when you had to mess up your creation? Remember "I am invited even when I mess up!"

Memory Verse



"So welcome each other, in the same way that Christ also welcomed you, for God's glory." Romans 15:7, CEB