

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: April 10th - 11th

**Title:** Wreck-It-Ralph

**Text:** John 21

**Target:** The moments that you feel you have wrecked it beyond repair there is a God who chooses not to leave you in your ruin, but instead use the ruin to bring about redemption.

**Three Major Building Blocks of Resurrection:** Jesus was resurrected so you can experience one in your situation! **You gotta Highlight in your Bible.... John 20:30-31: ...and that by believing you may have life in His name.**

- I. **BOAT OUT OF REACH:** *Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. (Vs. 3)*
- A. **Overwhelmed by a Sense of Fear:**
  - B. **Overwhelmed by a Sentiment of Failure:**
  - C. **Overwhelmed by a Scene of Familiarity:**
  - D. **Overwhelmed by a Source of Fish:** *He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. (Vs. 6)*
    - 1. 7 of the 12 disciples were fishermen by trade.
    - 2. Comparison to Luke 5:1-11

**Question #1:** Go ahead and read Luke 5:1-11 as a group. Observe Peter's words: "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." (Luke 5:8) Peter knew that he was *unworthy* of following Jesus. He was afraid of even being near him, but Jesus called him to be a fisher of men. Here in John 21, we see Peter, who had denied Jesus three times, *rush* to shore to meet with Jesus, knowing that Jesus forgives, despite his failure. Peter had developed a personal relationship with Jesus, so he knew he is the giver of grace and mercy. Has there been a time in your life in which you were *overwhelmed* by your sin and shame, and felt that you couldn't approach Jesus for forgiveness? What can we learn from Peter's sense of *freedom* in moving towards Jesus despite his brokenness?

- II. **BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH:** *Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. (Vs. 12)*
- A. **Purposeful Confrontation:** Notice the use of "**Love**" (Vs. 15-17)
  - B. **Powerful Restoration:** "*Feed My Lambs, Tend My Sheep, Feed my sheep*" (Vs. 15-17)
  - C. **Prophetic Declaration:** **Truly, truly,** *I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go. (Vs. 18)*



**Question #2:** Earlier in Luke 5:1-11, we saw Peter be made fully aware of sinful nature. But Jesus called him to something higher. Here, we see Jesus provoke in Peter a full awareness of his sinful nature once again when He asked him three times if he loved Him. But in His faithfulness, He fully restored Peter and asked him once again, to follow Him. Jesus *knew* Peter would fail again and again, but He was concerned about his heart for Him, not just his works for Him. In the previous questions, we see Peter's freedom in approaching Jesus despite his failure. Now, we see him restored and called despite his failure. Where in your life do you desire to see the *restoration* of Jesus. Does this story about Peter, and the reality of the resurrection, give you hope in your situation? If so, how? If not, how come? Discuss as a group.

- III. **BELIEF THAT WILL PREACH:** (*This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.*) And after saying this he said to him, **"Follow me."** (Vs. 19)
- A. **Call to Repentance:** When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" (Vs. 21)
  - B. **Call to Renewal:** Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? **You follow me!**" (Vs. 22)
  - C. **Call to Reaffirm:**
    - 1. Yield to His Will
    - 2. Yearn for His Word
    - 3. Yes to His Way

**Question #3:** It's so easy in our life, to look at the blessings and situations someone else is in, and focus more on what's going on in their lives than our own. Peter has just been told that he would *die* for Jesus, and he was more worried about what would happen to John. As a part of our sinful nature, the fact that Jesus died in our place, resurrected from the dead, and fully restored us, is never good enough. We get distracted from His glory, and fix our eyes on others instead of Him. That's why Jesus says, "You follow me!" Has there ever been a situation in which you were so worried about everyone else that you completely missed the *evidence* of who Jesus is and what He's done for you? How have you repented from that, and *reaffirmed* your devotion to Jesus? If you haven't, how will you?

**Take Away:** Your story may include chapters you may wish never happened, but your story is not done; it is only the beginning.