

And There He Was: The Impact of the Appearances of Jesus

To The Denier

John 21.15-19

Have you ever felt like God has no use for you?

15 So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus *said to Simon Peter,
“Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me more than these?” He *said to Him,
“Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.”

He *said to him, “Tend My lambs.”

16 He *said to him again a second time, “Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me?” He *said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He *said to him, “Shepherd My sheep.”

17 He *said to him the third time, “Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me?” Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.” Jesus *said to him, “Tend My sheep.

By letting Peter work through his failure, Jesus moves Peter past his failure.

Jesus emphasizes two critical aspects of Peter’s restoration: Love and Service.

18 Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go.” 19 Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He *said to him, “Follow Me!”

You can believe or feel that God has given up on you.

Peter needed Jesus to restore him to a place of usefulness

Jesus can restore us. He makes us useful.

Jesus never gives up on those who follow him

Jesus gives us the chance to bring glory to God