

# FALLEN HEROES

## #2 50 DAYS TO CHANGE THE WORLD

### Introduction:

- Who is your fallen hero?
  - Parent?
  - Spouse?
  - Friend
  - Work colleague?
- What if YOU are the fallen hero?
  - Sometimes we run – other times we just want time out
- How does Jesus help us in these situations?

### 1. He invites us to reconnect

- The Lord uses every day events (like breakfast!) for us to reconnect with Him.

### BACKGROUND: John 21:1-14

- Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, James, John and 2 more
- Only John had stayed with Jesus until his death
  - Guilt?
- They had seen the risen Lord, but their minds had yet to process what it meant
  - Confusion?
  - They had to earn some income
- Before we get to the invite, He has to get our attention.

**John 21:5-6** *He called out, “Friends, have you caught any fish?” “No,” they replied. Then he said, “Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you’ll get some!” So they did, and they couldn’t haul in the net because there were so many fish in it.*

- He reminded them of their call to follow Jesus

- At least 3 were fishing for a living when called
- According to early church leader Jerome, there were 153 edible species in Lake Galilee.

QUESTION: Can our need to earn an income get in the way of our calling?

## 2. He restores the fallen

- Restoration starts with love for God
  - Love for the fallen
- Jesus knew how to restore Peter

**John 21:15 (TPT)** *After they had breakfast, Jesus said to Peter, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you burn with love for me more than these?” Peter answered, “Yes, Lord! You know that I have great affection for you!”*

- “Burn with love for Me...”
  - More than...
    - Favourite passion
    - Favourite people.
  - Peter’s reply ... “I have great affection for you....”

**John 21:16** *Jesus repeated His question the second time, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you burn with love for me?” Peter answered, “Yes, my Lord! You know that I have great affection for you!” “Then take care of my sheep,” Jesus said.*

- “Burn with love for Me...”
  - Peter’s reply: “great affection...”

**John 21:17** *Then Jesus asked him again, “Peter, son of Jonah, do you have great affection for me?” Peter was saddened by being asked the third time and said, “My Lord, You know everything. You know that I burn with love for you.” Jesus replied, “Then feed my lambs!”*

- Note Peter’s reply:
  - You know everything
  - You know the state of my heart.
- Whether your hero has fallen, or if you are the fallen – Jesus restores.

QUESTION: Do you believe Jesus can restore a “fallen hero” who was in the public eye and whose “falling” was made public?

### 3. Move Forward!

- Peter was at the crossroads:
  - Do I move forward?
  - Am I accepted?
  - Do I have what it takes?
- Jesus tells Peter “feed my lambs”
  - He also prophesied Peter’s death
  - Then: “Peter, follow ME...” (v19)

#### Peter’s tips for not falling:

**2 Peter 1:3** *His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.*

- Divine power
  - Gives us everything.

**2 Peter 1:5-6** *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;*

- Self control / perseverance (Peter’s weak spots)

*2 Peter 1:7-8 and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ*

- Notice “increasing measure”

**2 Peter 1:10-11** *Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*

- Calling – when Jesus calls, it is not a mistake
  - Election – I KNOW I am one of His people
- Whether your hero has fallen, or you have fallen, Jesus’ word to you is “come, follow Me...”