Scenes of Discipleship: "Feed My Sheep" Western Christadelphian Bible School Day #5



Getting over a painful experience is much like crossing the monkey bars. You have to let go at some point in order to move forward.

C.S. Lewis



What is the event in your life that you are most ashamed of?





Bad Memories

When they got out on land, they saw a <u>charcoal fire</u> [*anthrakia*] in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. John 21:9 Only other X is Jn. 18:18

This was now the <u>third time</u> that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. John 21:14

Three failures in the garden

<u>Three</u> denials











άγαπάω vs. φιλέω Jesus: "Simon son of John, do you truly love [agapao] me more than these?"

Peter: "Yes, Lord, you know that I love [*phileo*] you." Jesus: "Feed [*boske*] my lambs [*arnion*]"

Jesus: "Simon son of John, do you truly love [agapao] me?"

Peter: "Yes, Lord, you know that I love [phileo] you."

- Jesus: "Take care of [*poimaino*] my sheep [*probaton*]." Jesus: "Simon son of John, do you love [*phileo*] me?"
- Peter is "grieved" [*lupeo*]
 - Peter: "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love [*phileo*] you."
 - Jesus: "Feed [boske] my sheep [probaton]."

This is a continuation of their conversation on the "night he was betrayed."



Jn. 13:36 Following...not now but soon

Jesus: "Simon son of John, do you truly love [*agapao*] me more than these?"

"You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the <u>sheep</u> of the flock will be scattered." But after I am raised up, I will go before you to <u>Galilee</u>.' Peter answered him, '<u>Though they all fall</u> <u>away because of you, I will never fall away</u>.' Jesus said to him, 'Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.' Peter said to him, '<u>Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!</u>' And all the disciples said the same." (Matt. 26:31-35 ESV)

The comparisons to others stops...for the moment

"a little lamb...lambkin"

arnion

Only used by Jn, almost exclusively in Rev.

"lamb"

Not amnos

Sacrifice...Peter's intro to Jesus (Jn. 1:29, 36)

"...you were ransomed...not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot." (1 Pet. 1:18-19 ESV)

Jn. 10

"For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned [*epistrepho*] to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." (1 Pet. 2:25 ESV)

"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again [*epistrepho*], strengthen your brothers." (Lk. 22:31-32 ESV)

poimaino



boske



So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (1 Peter 5:1-5 ESV)

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 5:6-11)

"True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less."

C.S. Lewis

Grieved

- He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved [*lupeo*] because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" (Jn. 21:17 ESV)
- "And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, 'Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.' They began to be sorrowful [*lupeo*] and to say to him one after another, 'Is it I?'" (Mk. 14:18-19 ESV)

God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our consciences, but shouts in our pains. It is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.

C.S. Lewis

"As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, 'The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day.' And they were greatly distressed [*lupeo*]." (Matt. 17:22-23 ESV)

"Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here, while I go over there and pray.' And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful [*lupeo*] and troubled. Then he said to them, 'My soul is very sorrowful [*perilupeo*] even to death; remain here, and watch with me.'" (Matt. 26:37-38 ESV) "God allows us to experience the low points of life in order to teach us lessons that we could learn in no other way."

C.S. Lewis

Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. John 16:19-22

And all discipline for the present does not seem to be a thing of joy, but of grief— but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to the ones having been trained by it.

Heb. 12:11 DLNT

Let's Talk About Love

Jesus: "Simon son of John, do you *agapao* me more than these?"

Peter: "Yes, Lord, you know that I *phileo* you."

Jesus: "Simon son of John, do you truly agapao me?"

Peter: "Yes, Lord, you know that I love *phileo* you."

Jesus: "Simon son of John, do you *phileo* me?" Peter: "Lord, you know all things; you know that I *phileo* you."

"...many Christians in America just know that agape is a Greek word that refers to divine, unconditional love, a higher love than any other. But as a matter of fact, agape does not have this special meaning in Greek, and is only slightly different in meaning from phileo. Agape means 'love,' and it has about the same range of meaning as the English word 'love.' It can refer to loving people, food, God, money, or anything else. It can refer to selfless love or selfish love, depending on the context. Surprisingly, Greek scholars and New Testament scholars widely agree on this conclusion, but most other Christians, including many pastors, are unaware of it. I am not aware of any living Greek scholar who accepts the view of agape that is widely proclaimed from the pulpit."

- "She. . .cometh . . .to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved (PHILEO)" — John 20:2
- "For whom the Lord loveth (AGAPAO) he chasteneth." Hebrews 12:6 "As many as I love (PHILEO), I rebuke and chasten" — Revelation 3:19 "ye love (AGAPAO) the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets." — Luke 11:43 "love (PHILEO) greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the

synagogues" — Luke 20:46

"Now concerning brotherly love [philadelphia] you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love [agapao] one another" (1 Thessalonians 4:9 ESV) "Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other [*philadelphia*], love one another deeply [*agapao*], from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God." (1 Pet. 1:22-23 NIV)

"by applying all diligence, supply with your faith excellence of character, and with excellence of character, knowledge, and with knowledge, self-control, and with self-control, patient endurance, and with patient endurance, godliness, and with godliness, brotherly love, and with brotherly love [*philadelphia*], love [*agapao*]." (2 Pet. 1:5-7 Lexham English Bible)

Why?

- Both *phileo* and *agape* are essential
- Jesus was telling Peter that he needed to love people with whom he had no personal connection
- Jesus met Peter where he was but let him know that growth was going to happen

Simon, son of Jonah

- Jesus saw Simon as the disciple he would become (Jn. 1:42) and celebrated spiritual breakthroughs (Matt. 16:17)
- "Son of Jonah" prepared him for his greatest challenge: embracing Gentiles into God's family

Acts 10

- Three times (v. 16)
- "Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon who is called Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea." (Acts 10:32 ESV)
- "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him." (Acts 10:34-35 ESV)

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." (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." (John 21:18-19 ESV)

What Did Peter Learn?

- Both phileo and agape are essential
- Give special care to the lambkins
- We love Jesus by loving each other
- Jesus accepts where we are and who we are but he is relentless in expecting us and helping us to become who we are meant to be
- We become who we are meant to be by obeying Jesus' command: "Follow me."

Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, *since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.* And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things. (2 Peter 1:12-15 ESV)