

# Reconciliation at the Table

## Practicing the Way series: Sharing the Table

Sunday message from March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
~ Notes & Reflections ~

- **We have to share the table if we are going to journey together. It is foundational to our discipleship.**
  - ❖ How have you seen the table be a place of hospitality, love, discipleship and justice in this sermon series?
  - ❖ What has sharing the table meant for you as you've begun practicing?
- **The table can also be a place of reconciliation.**
- Read [John 13.36-38](#) and [18.15-18, 25-27](#).
  - ❖ How might Peter have experienced this (both before and after the rooster crowed, before and after he recalled Jesus' words to him)?
  - ❖ How did this affect his relationship with Jesus?
- Read [John 21.1-17](#)
  - ❖ How do you think Peter's severed relationship with Jesus affected this fishing trip?
  - ❖ How do you see Jesus extending invitations to reconcile relationship with Peter?
  - ❖ How do you see Peter responding to Jesus' invitations?
  - ❖ What stands out to you in this story?
- **You are never too far gone to be excluded from Jesus' table.**
  - ❖ In John 21, we see a God who is always welcoming us to come back home to Him.
- **In sharing the table, walls come down, shame gets turned on it's head and we find a true sense of belonging.**
  - ❖ What might it look like for you to find this at Jesus' table?
  - ❖ What might it look like for you to offer this to others at your table?
- **Jesus' table is both welcoming to you and safe for you.**
  - ❖ Sometimes our relationships are much messier than Jesus and Peter's and involve harm and abuse.
  - ❖ What is your experience of harmful relationships?
  - ❖ The actions of Jesus in this story do not point toward directly inviting abusers back into full relationship.
  - ❖ How do you see God's heart in the actions of Jesus toward Peter?
- **Rebuilding trust is necessary for true reconciliation and building trust is slow work.**
  - ❖ Jesus demonstrated some healthy steps toward reconciliation. Consider each step, both in your relationship to Jesus (What invitation is He offering to you? How will you respond?) and your relationship with someone who has caused you harm (What step is your relationship at? Talk with Jesus about this.)
  - ❖ 1) Jesus created relational space. He stood on the shore before He offered invitation (John 21.4).
  - ❖ 2) Peter moved toward Jesus. He jumped into the water as soon as he knew it was Jesus (21.7).
  - ❖ 3) Jesus set a boundary that Peter honors. He obeyed Jesus' request (21.10-11).
  - ❖ 4) Jesus continued to press Peter's desire for reconciliation (21.15-17).
- What statements or aspects of this message bring comfort? Which bring conviction? Take some time to talk to God about what bubbles up as you read/hear and reflect on this message.
- What might God be inviting you into as a response to this message/reflection on sharing the table?