

The Great Question About a Disciple's Love and Devotion

John 21:15–17

1. *After the meal,*
Jesus focused on Peter

2. *Do you love me*
more than these?

- a. Pointed to the disciples
- b. Pointed to the fishing equipment (Peter's business)
- c. Charge 1: Feed my lambs

3. *Do you love me with God's love*
– love me enough
to feed my people?

- a. God's love (agapao, sacrificial)
- b. Peter's love (phileo, brotherly)
- c. Charge 2: Feed my sheep

4. *Do you love me*
as a loyal brother –
love me with agape love
or phileo love?

- a. The Lord's question:
Do you really love me
as a brother (phileo)?
- b. Peter's strong declaration:
Jesus knew
that he loved Him
as a brother
- c. Charge 3: Feed my sheep

15 When they had finished eating,
Jesus said to Simon Peter,
“Simon son of John,
do you truly love me
more than these?”
“Yes, Lord,” he said,
“you know that I love you.”
Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

16 Again Jesus said,
“Simon son of John,
do you truly love me?”
He answered. “Yes, Lord,
you know that I love you.”
Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

17 The third time he said to him,
“Simon son of John,
do you love me?”
Peter was hurt
because Jesus asked him the third time,
“Do you love me?”
He said,
“Lord, you know all things;
you know that I love you.”
Jesus said,
“Feed my sheep.”

Event 8: The Great Call to Total Commitment

John 21:18–25

<p>1. Total commitment demands following the leadership of another (the Holy Spirit)</p> <p>a. When young: Peter walked and did as he willed</p> <p>b. When old: Another would lead Peter where he would not choose</p>	<p>18 “I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.”</p>
<p>2. Total commitment demands the cross – death to self: “Follow me”</p>	<p>19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”</p>
<p>3. Total commitment demands undivided attention to one’s own task</p>	<p>20 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”)</p>
<p>a. Peter questioned John’s task</p> <p>b. Jesus rebuked Peter</p> <p>c. Jesus again challenged Peter to follow Him</p>	<p>21 When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?”</p> <p>22 Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.”</p>
<p>d. John corrected the rumour that started later because of this event</p>	<p>23 Because of this, the rumour spread among the brothers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die: he only said, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?”</p>

4. *Total commitment demands bearing witness to Christ*

- a. John bore witness
- b. John's witness was true
- c. John's witness includes only a few of the things that Jesus did

24 This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

25 Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.