

## RESTORED TO LOVE

August 13, 2017 John 21:15-17 by Bob Branch  
Love That Changes Everything, part 3 of 3

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### Have you ever had an epic fail?

**BIG IDEA:** You are restored when your loves are set right.

**agapao**- to prefer, an other-oriented love

**phileo**- to esteem, affection/passion for; friendship love.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love and prefer me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know I’m your friend.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

Simon: “**We’re going back to who you were.**”

“Do you love me **more than...** 1) more than **fishing**, your **old way of life**? 2) more than you **love these guys**? 3) **more than these guys do**?

<sup>16</sup> Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love and prefer me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I’m your friend.”

Jesus said, “Take care (shepherd) of my sheep.”

**1. Once your LOVES ARE SET RIGHT, everything else will start to fall in line. If your loves aren’t straight, nothing will ever really fall in line.**

“where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”  
**Matthew 6:21** ESV

“the love (*affection*) of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.” **1 Timothy 6:10** NLT (1 Jn. 2:15)

“God’s light came into the world, but people loved (prefer) the darkness more than the light” **John 3:19** NLT

“Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.” **1 John 2:15** NLT

**What do you love?** Where is your love directing your life?

<sup>17</sup> The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you really have the affection for me that you have claimed?” (*phileo*)

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you really love me like a friend?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know (by personal experience) that I’m your friend, you have my affection.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. **John 21:15–17**

**We may say that we love God... but what do we mean?**

**2. To be restored (and walk in that restoration), we must RETURN (and continue to return) to our first love for God.**

“But I have *this* against you: that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the works you did at first. **Revelation 2:4–5** LEB

**3. Loving God well will always work its way OUTWARD in loving others. “Feed my sheep”**

“Love the Lord... love your neighbor as yourself.”  
**Matthew 22:37, 39**