One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. 2 He saw at the water’s edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

Point #1: We all have a boat.
We have a platform, a position, a place and God wants to use us there.

Point #2: Our past doesn’t disqualify the future.
Jesus wants to use the Peters, the you and me, in spite of ourselves.

31 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." 33 But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death." 34 Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

Point #3: Get out of your boat!
God calls us out of the boat for an adventure, relationship, and to trust.

John 21:15–19 NIV
15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you 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 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. 18 Very truly I tell you, 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." 19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

Point #4: The whole point of the journey... is the journey.
Your redemption journey IS your story and your story has influence.
1. What are some of your favorite personal boat experiences?

2. What are some ways that you relate to Peter and his experiences?

3. What passage of scripture brought you the most encouragement? Why?

4. How are you wrestling with the tension of faith to “get out of your boat”?

5. What are some practical steps you will take to partner with Jesus in influencing others?

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### GOING DEEPER

1. Is there an even deeper meaning in the telling of Peter’s redemption in John 21:15–19?

2. Peter was commissioned by Jesus to be a “fisher of men.” How was that call played out in Peter’s life?

3. He was also called to be a “rock.” How does the story of redemption show us what the pillars of God’s kingdom look like?

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Sulha**

In the Middle Eastern culture, meals hold a special significance! They indicate that you are in fellowship with one another.

- This Covenant Meal is called a Sulha—it is a “meal of reconciliation”
- When people experience conflict, they seek reconciliation by rituals that include a shared friendship meal.