

(1) Discuss Peter's three-fold denial of Jesus in John 18:15-27. How do you account for this? What led Peter to commit this horrible sin? How could he have resisted the temptation to deny Jesus? Now, compare our Lord's three-fold question to Peter in John 21. How do you think Peter was feeling when he heard Jesus ask him this?

(2) What does our Lord's recommissioning of Peter tell us about the nature of Jesus, the nature of forgiveness, and the extent of Christ's love for his people?

(3) Does Peter's restoration to ministry have any relevance to the question of whether or not a pastor or elder today can be restored after serious sin? Which sins, if any, do you think might permanently disqualify someone from ministry? Why these sins and not others?

(4) Revisit John 1:12; 3:16-18; 3:36; 8:24; and 14:6. What would you say to someone who objects that requiring faith in Christ and in Christ alone is unfair?

(5) Revisit John 8:31; 14:15; 14:21; and 14:23-24. What do these verses tell us about the relationship between saving faith and obedience? In what sense, if at all, can it be said that obedience to Christ and love for him are necessary for salvation?