**HOPE WHEN ALL ELSE SEEMS LOST**

**John 21:3-9**

* **The Lord is always willing to forgive our failures, but so often we won’t forgive ourselves, and we wind up living passionless, purposeless lives.**
* ***What can we do to find renewed purpose and passion in our lives?***

***Finding Hope For Our Lives Requires:***

**DETERMINING NOT TO GIVE UP**

* **When people experience failure or difficulties in life, their tendency is to return to old habits and lifestyles, which only leads to further discouragement and defeat.**
* **Every time you are tempted to react in the same old way, ask yourself if you want to be a prisoner of your past, or a pioneer of your future.**
* **If you don’t let your past die, It wont let your future live**
* Jesus -*“The thief comes to steal, kill and destroy, but I have come to bring you a full and satisfying life.”* (John 10:10)
* **Your current condition is not your conclusion.**

***Finding Hope For Our Lives Requires:***

**DOING WHAT THE LORD INSTRUCTS US TO DO**

* **Many people experience discouragement and failures because they’re “fishing on the wrong side of the boat” (living outside of the Lord’s will for their lives).**
* **If you do little things like they're big things, God will do big things like they're little things**
* *“Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust Him, and He will help you.”* (Psalm 37:5)
* **If you don't trust God with all... Eventually you won’t trust Him at all!!**

***Finding Hope Our Lives Requires:***

**DEPENDING UPON THE LORD’S PROVISION**

* *“Then the disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, ‘It’s the Lord!’ When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his tunic..., jumped into the water, and headed to shore. The others stayed with the boat and pulled the loaded net to the shore, for they were only about a hundred yards from shore. When they got there, they found breakfast waiting for them - fish cooking over a charcoal fire, and some bread.”* (John 21:7-9)
* *“My God will supply all your needs...”* (Philippians 4:19)
* **It is the Lord’s intent to provide for our physical, emotional, financial, relational, vocational and spiritual needs.**
* **Many people are settling for what the world provides rather than what the Lord wants to provide, and that keeps us off purpose in our lives.**

***Finding Purpose And Passion For Our Lives Requires:***

**DEVELOPING THE RIGHT PRIORITIES-**

* “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come.” (2 Corinthians 5:17)
* The Lord has called us to love Him more than anyone else.
* Jesus - *“You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.”* (Mark 12:30)
* *“Then Jesus told him, ‘Follow Me.’”* (John 21:19)
* *“We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.”* (Romans 8:28)
* ***What does the Lord want to do in, for. and through my life in the days ahead?***

**Connect Group Discussion**

**Understanding:**

* What does John 21:3-9 teach us about God/Jesus?
* What is the main message of John 21:3-9?
* How does John 21:3-9 speak to overcoming defeat?

**Digging Deeper:**

* What encouraged you the most from this message on John 21?
* Share about a time when you had seemingly “given up” only to see the Lord show up in a big way?
* How does living outside the Lord’s will impact our successes and failures?
* Where in your life do you struggle to depend on the Lord? Based on this study, how can you overcome those struggles?
* In what ways do many people settle for less (what the world has to offer), rather than seeking God wholeheartedly to experience the best He has to offer?
* What do you need to do differently as a result of this study?

**Loving Outward:**

* Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
* Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
* Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?

If you are not in a Connect Group and would like to get connected to grow in your relationship with God and others, contact the church office at 225-272-3740, and we can help find a group that fits your schedule.