

# *“New Lease On Life”*

**John 21:1-3, 15-22**

East Berlin Community Church

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## Introduction:

- The “roller coaster ride” of the disciples: Triumphant Entry, Arrest, Trial, Crucifixion, Resurrection
- Important Meeting with the resurrected Christ in Galilee
  - The Announcement by the Meeting.
    - Matthew 26:32-- *“But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.”*
    - Matthew 28:7-- *“And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you.”*
    - Matthew 28:10-- , *“Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me.”*
  - The Actual Meeting
    - John 21:1-- *“After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself.”*
  - The Attendees at the meeting
    - John 21:2-- *“Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together.”*
  - Their Choice of Activity-- Return to Fishing
    - John 21:3-- *“Simon Peter said to them, ‘I am going fishing.’ They said to him, ‘We are going with you also.’ They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing.”*

## *New Lease on Life*

### **A. Peter’s “Old Lease”-- Broken before God**

1. Foretold by Jesus
  - Luke 22:31-32-- *“Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.”*
2. Brokenness is a good place to be.
  - Psalm 34:18-- *“The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.”*
  - Psalm 51:17-- *“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise.”*
3. Brokenness leads to genuine repentance
  - 2 Corinthians 7:9-10-- *“Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. For godly sorrow repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.”*
4. Difference between Judas’ remorse and Peter’s brokenness.
5. Many want to “start over”, a “second chance” at life.
6. Fresh start guaranteed by Christ’s resurrection.
  - Romans 6:4b-- *“just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”*

### **B. Peter’s “New Lease”**

1. **Hints** of a “New Lease”
  - a. Christ’s pre-denial observation: *“When you turn back, strengthen the brethren”*
  - b. Christ’s reverts to Peter’s original name! In other words, let’s start over! --
    - John 1:24-- *“Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, ‘You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas’ (which is translated, A Stone).”*

## 2. **Fine Print of the “New Lease”**

### a. **It is “Love-Motivated”**

- John 21:15-17-- *“So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Feed My lambs.’ He said to him again a second time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Tend My sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, ‘Do you love Me?’ And he said to Him, ‘Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed My sheep.’”*

#### 1) General characteristics

##### a) Based on love for Christ, not guilt.

- Matthew 26:33-- *““Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.”*

##### b) Based on Christ’s knowledge of us

#### 2) Peter-Specific: Feed my lambs, Tend my sheep, Feed my sheep.

#### 3) God has a specific plan for your life

- Ephesians 2:10-- *“We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”*

### b. **It is “Life-Encompassing”**

- John 21:18-19-- *““Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish.’ This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, ‘Follow Me.’”*

#### 1) Includes everything even death--all for God’s glory!

#### 2) Peter-Specific: Died by crucifixion

#### 3) Application to us:

- Philippians 1:20-21-- *“According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”*

#### 4) Single Command: FOLLOW ME

### c. **It is “Lone-Specific”**

- John 21:20-21-- *“Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, ‘Lord, who is the one who betrays You?’ Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, ‘But Lord, what about this man?’”*

#### 1) It is individualized, that is, different for each person.

##### a) It’s none of our business what God has planned for others.

- John 21:22-- *“Jesus said to him, ‘If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me.’”*

##### b) We are to “follow Christ”, not others.

#### 2) It is realized as we come to the end of ourselves, and surrender all to follow Christ.

- Luke 9:23-24-- *“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.”*