

John 21:17

“...lovest thou me?
Peter...said unto him,
Lord, thou knowest all
things; thou knowest that
I love thee.”

Peter was one of the closest people to Jesus while he was here in the world. Out of the 12 disciples Peter, James & John made up Jesus' inner circle.

Peter was quite an impulsive man, often acting before thinking, but most of the time his actions reflected his fierce loyalty & love for the Lord Jesus.

When Jesus asked Peter if he loved him Peter was a little taken aback & said, Lord, you know everything, you know that I love you!

In fact in this section of scripture Jesus & the disciples are eating together JUST after Jesus was raised & Jesus asks Peter the same question 3 times! Each time Peter answers yes & Jesus commands him to “feed my sheep.” I think Jesus asked Peter this question 3 times to emphasize the importance of Peter's unconditional love for him & to stress that Peter was to use this love to look after those who followed Jesus.

Through Jesus' conversation with Peter I learnt the importance of encouraging those who love the Lord & being a good testimony to those who don't yet.

Peter assured the Lord Jesus here that he loved him 3 times but had previously denied that he even knew Jesus 3 times at the cross! Through grace he was fully forgiven, restored & used by God to lead so many people to Christ, like in Acts 2:38 “Peter said to them, Repent, and be baptized...and there were added in that day 3000 souls”

A Hymn
R.D Edwards

“O the love of God is boundless,
Perfect causeless full and free!
Doubts have vanished, fears are
groundless,
Now I know that love to me.
Love, the source of all my
blessing,
Love that set itself on me;
Love that gave the spotless
victim,
Love told out at Calvary.
'Tis love displayed by Jesus
When alone at Calvary.”



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The following is extracts from a preaching that was held in a small village in the South of India named Tirupur by my friend Ryan McKay, age 19.

John 5:5&6 “But there was a certain man there who had been suffering under his infirmity thirty and eight years. Jesus seeing this [man] lying [there], and knowing that he was [in that state] now a great length of time, says to him, **Wouldest thou become well?**”

Jesus shows so much compassion here. This man was clearly suffering and completely dependent on other people; he couldn't work or make any money. His condition was pretty desperate. Suffering for 38 years. We can't even begin to imagine the length or amount of his suffering.

This is like us in our condition of sin. Everyone is a sinner. We may

not think we are too bad, but we've all sinned.

We're like this man, we can't cure ourselves. He'd been trying for 38 years!

His hope must have shrunk down to almost no hope at all.

Even when we are at our best it is not enough; we still sin.

But in verse 6 we have Jesus.

“Wouldest thou become well?”

What would you answer to that question? Jesus is asking you the same thing. Would you like to walk and become well? Behold I am standing at the door and knocking! The man said yes and Jesus says to him **“arise, take up thy couch and walk.”**

Jesus does not disappoint. It's an immediate response; the man stands up.

Just like that we can be cured from our sins. Jesus can wash away our sin with his blood. All the work has been done, we just need to trust in him.

“believe on Jesus and thou shalt be saved.”

I like to think that afterwards this man really loved the Lord Jesus.

We should also love the Lord Jesus for taking away our sins.

I hope we can all learn to love the Lord Jesus.

Barnabi Section

Phillipians 4:4-7

“Rejoice in the Lord always: again I will say, rejoice. Let your gentleness be known of all men. The Lord is near be careful about nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which will surpass every understanding shall guard your hearts and your thoughts by Christ Jesus.”

Marion McLaren, 22

Psalms 25:4

“make me to know thy ways, o Jehovah; teach me thy paths.”

Colin Cummings, 30

Phillipians 1:6

“he who has begun in you a good work will complete it unto Jesus Christ's day.”

-I find this is a really reassuring verse that applies and can be true for many people's situations.

Marianne Brown, 22