

mercy is bigger than your mess.”

Today, God is telling you the same thing. If you feel that you’ve failed so much that you think God doesn’t want to have anything to do with you, think again. *God’s mercy is bigger than your mess.*

2. Jesus broke bread with Peter

Peter was wondering when he would get a loud thrashing from Je-sus. But Jesus didn’t do that. Instead, Jesus said, “*Come and eat.*” (John 21:12 GNT).

Jesus invited Peter to a hearty meal of grilled fish over charcoal fire on the seashore. In Jewish culture, a meal was a declaration of being family.

Through this meal, Jesus was telling Peter, “*Your failure doesn’t cancel our friendship.*”

Compare the two “charcoal fire” scenes:

1. Peter warming his hands over a charcoal fire and denying he knew Jesus when a girl asked him if he was His disciple.
2. Jesus inviting Peter to a hearty meal of grilled fish over charcoal fire on the seashore. Instead of lashing out at Peter, as the apostle expected, Jesus said, “*Come and eat.*” (John 21:12 GNT).

In Jewish culture, a meal was a declaration of being family.

Ask for sharing on how to get rid of bad habits:

1. Get Loved

Here’s the truth: *Any addiction is anesthesia to numb our painful hunger for love.* The lack of love is the greatest pain in the world. But instead of looking for real love, people escape through an addiction. That anesthesia could be alcohol, gambling, drugs, material things, fame, video games.

Your bad habits are all pain killers. To get rid of a bad habit, you need to fill your hunger for real love.

Compare the difference between Jesus’ agape (unconditional) love for Peter, and Peter’s philia (noble, but imperfect) love for Jesus.

2. Get Real

To receive God’s Love, you need humility. By getting real, brutally facing our failures, we gain humility.

This is why Jesus didn’t only reenact Peter’s call, *he also reenacted Peter’s fall.* He wanted Peter to get real and get humble.

Compare how Peter and Judas resolved their dilemma.

Ask for sharing on how members try breaking their bad habits.

III. PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

Pray for inner renewal, that everyone will always remember *all change is an inside job.*

Pray that if anyone has failed and fallen, one will receive the grace to be a Peter, not a Judas. That remember, the difference is not their sin, but their response to Gods’ Love.

Pray we can all go back to Jesus. He’s always waiting for us.
Together, declare: God is changing us!

Notes:

