

YOUTH CONFERENCE 2024 - THURSDAY AM | Kondo Simfukwe

Overview:

Speaker (Kondo Simfukwe) kicked off the session with this statement: Jesus Christ came back from the dead – one time – and broke up with death AND if Jesus can break up with death and conquer it, then there is nothing broken in you that He cannot restore. Kondo shares some great insight from Jesus' interaction with some of his disciples from John 21. Some students have done things, things that may cause them to think they cannot be restored. They may think they are too far gone in their sin. But Jesus is standing on the shore of their life ready to pour out His grace – a grace that never ends.

Key Scripture: John 21:1-17; Luke 5:10-11; Luke 22:56-59

Ice-breaker Question: How many of you have ever broken something? What was it that you broke and were you able to repair or fix it?

Dig Deeper:

Let's be honest, we have all done some 'thangs'. Things that if others knew you did them, it would ruin you. Things that if your parents found out about, would break trust. But understanding that Jesus came back from the dead and conquered death makes all the difference in our lives

READ John 21:1-17

This passage of scripture takes place after the resurrection of Jesus from the dead but before he ascends into heaven. And some of his closest disciples, who had deserted him in his darkest hour, had gone back to their previous jobs of fishing.

- *What part of this story stands out to you? What do you observe about the disciples' actions?*

What makes the first part of this chapter sad is the fact that these disciples returned to their previous job of fishing. And not only that but Peter who seems to have initiated the return to fishing, brought others along with him. **READ** Luke 5:10-11

- In Luke 5, it says the disciples came ashore, **left everything** and followed Him. *Have you ever committed yourself to do something or to stop doing something and later on you find yourself back in the same situation doing the same thing you said you wouldn't do? Why do you think that is?*

Some of you may even think that Jesus is done with you because you have messed up! You said you would never do that sin again and here you are doing it. You had so much potential, but now you have stopped going to church or stopped trusting Jesus. But here's the deal:

JESUS IS COMING AFTER YOU ANYWAYS | HE IS STANDING ON THE SHORE OF YOUR LIFE AND CALLING OUT “FRIENDS”

Luke 21:5, “He called out to them, ‘Friends, haven’t you any fish?’”

Here is the beauty of this scene. What these disciples were looking for (fish) and trying to gather on their own, Jesus had an abundance of. Not only did Jesus tell them where to gather fish (on the other side of the boat) but He was on the shore cooking fish over the fire.

- *Has there been a time in your life (maybe even now) where you try to accomplish things on your own? How’s that going?*

Jesus grace is bewildering! Just like Jesus had all the fish the disciples could ever want, Jesus already has what you are striving for! And He wants to pour out grace upon grace upon grace on you.

I’M NOT DONE WITH YOU

Jesus restored Peter. Jesus didn’t give up on Peter. When the devil reminds Peter of the three times he denied Jesus, Jesus reminds him three times saying, I’m not done with you yet! Feed my sheep!

Group Discussion:

1. How do you think you would have responded if you were in Peter’s shoes after the death and burial of Jesus? Would you return to your old ways; your old tasks?
2. Think of the time in your life when you were walking closest with Jesus. Compare that to your relationship with Him now OR over the last month. What changed?
3. How do you respond to the bewildering idea of grace upon grace that Jesus pursues you with and calls you friend despite what you have done?