“Do You Love Me?”

Intro: Throughout this Book Christ Jesus perfectly God the _________ to us. So then, it is only appropriate in fulfilling his divine purpose in this Gospel that John closes by telling of our Lord most wonderfully _________ Peter, even though Peter had denied Him three times. In this is the loving and unchanging Heavenly Father explained to us.

A. And if ______ is _____________ then as He was on the day when Jesus ministered to Peter, so is He today. Let us see how Jesus ministered to Peter restoring him and ____________ His calling upon him even though he had failed so miserably. And then let us consider our lives in the light of this ever-present, _______________ and unchanging God.

I. Jesus began to specifically _____________ _____________ to Peter.

A. In ______________ love ______________ ministered to Peter by saying, “Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?”

1. Peter “said to Him, ‘_______, Lord; You know that ___ _______ ______.’”

   a. Peter answered honestly. The Lord asked Peter, “Do you __________ Me?” And Peter answered “Yes, Lord; you know that I _________ You.”

2. Without saying a thing about Peter’s response, Jesus “said to him, ‘_______ ___ _________.’”

B. The Lord then asked Peter the same question but without the _______________ “more than these.” The question is higher.

1. Again Simon affirmed his love for the Lord saying, “Yes, Lord; ______ _________ that I phileo you!”

2. Here then, as before the Lord charged Peter with His divine calling saying, “_________________ My _________.”

C. Jesus “said to him the _____________ ________, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love Me?’”
1. But this third time Jesus used Peter’s terminology asking, “Simon, son of John, ______ ______ ______ ______ Me?”

   a. This third question ______ ______ ______ Peter.

2. Peter responded in the ____________.

3. For a ________ time Jesus ________ Peter’s calling and ministry. Peter was called to ______ the Lord’s flock and now there is no doubt about it.

   a. “That the disgrace of his apostasy might not stand in the way, ________ blots it out and fully ________ the erring one.” (John Calvin)

D. Peter is no longer fallen but has been raised from failure to fulfill Christ’s calling. Blessed Jesus! See how He ministered to and completely restored and elevated fallen Peter! And in this, He has ________ ______ ______ ________ to us.

Closing: Having come to the end of our text, now, let us consider our own lives. ______ ______ ______ ______? He loves you!

A. Romans 11:29, “… the gifts and the calling of ________ are irrevocable.” And I’ll tell you why your calling and gifting is ___________________: Because it is God who calls and gifts as He wills.

You did not choose Him, but ______ ______ ______! What He has ordained He will bring about no matter how we fail along the way!

Here it is, plain and simple: God has called you to Himself and gifted you in some capacity to minister to His people. However and wherever the Lord may have you, with or without title, you are to _________ His lambs, shepherd ______ sheep, and tend to His _________! You may not be called to the pastorate, but you are called to make disciples. Feed His sheep! You may not love perfectly and you may have failed the Lord miserably, but as ______ has __________ you so does He call ______ making the way for your ministry. Feed His sheep!

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