

SPEAKER BRIEF 4

Message:

**“We are No Longer
Lost when we find
our purpose with
Jesus ”**

Lived-experience of young people:

- We all want to leave our mark on the world. For young people to feel connected to the world, they need to find ways to contribute to others and society.
- Young people can feel like they don't have anything to offer. Adults can dismiss them, think they don't know anything, and not allow them to contribute. This can leave young people feeling like they have no part to play in the world.
- Sometimes, young people try to contribute but may have their suggestions shut down. When young people are dismissed or ignored, they can become discouraged.
- Sometimes, if young people are given the opportunity to participate but make mistakes, they are not given any more opportunities to contribute. This can leave young people feeling lost about how they can contribute to the world.
- When young people can't find their part to play, they can feel worthless and become inactive members of society because they believe they have nothing to offer.

Personal reflection questions:

- When have you felt like you have nothing to offer? What happened?
- When you were a teenager, how did you find your part to play in the world?
- What kind of contribution do you want to make to the world?

Scripture: John 21:1-17

21 Later, Jesus appeared again to his followers by Lake Galilee. This is how it happened:

2 Some of the followers were together—Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the two sons of Zebedee, and two other followers.

3 Simon Peter said, “I am going out to fish.”

The other followers said, “We will go with you.” So all of them went out and got into the boat. They fished that night but caught nothing.

4 Early the next morning Jesus stood on the shore. But the followers did not know it was Jesus.

5 Then he said to them, “Friends, have you caught any fish?”

They answered, “No.”

6 He said, “Throw your net into the water on the right side of your boat. You will find some fish there.” So they did this. They caught so many fish that they could not pull the net back into the boat.

SPEAKER BRIEF 4

⁷The follower Jesus loved very much said to Peter, "That man is the Lord!" When Peter heard him say it was the Lord, he wrapped his coat around himself. (He had taken his clothes off to work.) Then he jumped into the water.

⁸The other followers went to shore in the boat. They pulled the net full of fish. They were not very far from shore, only about 100 yards.

⁹When they stepped out of the boat and onto the shore, they saw a fire of hot coals. There were fish on the fire and some bread there too.

¹⁰Then Jesus said, "Bring some of the fish that you caught."

¹¹Simon Peter got into the boat and pulled the net to the shore. It was full of big fish—153 of them! But even with that many fish, the net did not tear.

¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and eat." None of the followers would ask him, "Who are you?" They knew he was the Lord.

¹³Jesus walked over to get the bread and gave it to them. He also gave them the fish.

¹⁴This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his followers after he was raised from death.

¹⁵When they finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these other men love me?"

Peter answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Then Jesus said to him, "Take care of my lambs."

¹⁶Again Jesus said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

Peter answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Then Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

¹⁷A third time Jesus said, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was sad because Jesus asked him three times, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you!"

Jesus said to him, "Take care of my sheep."

Scripture points:

- Peter and some of the other disciples return to fishing after one of their closest friends, Jesus, dies. The disciples would've felt lost. Jesus was gone, and they didn't know what to do, so they returned to their old ways. Jesus had called them to serve the world. They had their lives transformed, but now they were right back to where they started, fishing and catching nothing.
- Peter probably would have felt shame over previously denying that he knew Jesus not once but three times. When he recognised Jesus on the shore, he could've hidden in fear. But instead, he runs to Jesus! Peter still wants to follow him.
- Jesus encourages Peter to "feed his sheep", which means to look after God's people. For Peter, feeding God's sheep looked like leading the church. But for others, this might look like caring for someone in need, encouraging others, and telling more people about the Good News of Jesus. Jesus is calling us to love him and love others.
- Jesus includes Peter in his plan for the world: to transform people's lives and bring them into God's family. Jesus gives Peter a part to play and encourages him that he has something to offer.



Personal reflection questions:

- Have you ever felt a calling from Jesus? What happened?
- What brings you a sense of purpose in your life?
- What difference does it make knowing that Jesus has a part for us to play in his plan?

The Good News message:

“We all want to leave our mark on the world, but sometimes we feel left out, ignored, or unimportant. This can affect our self-esteem, confidence, and how much we contribute to the world. The Good News is that we all have a part to play in the world. **Just like Peter, Jesus calls those who love him to share his love with the world.** When we feel like we have nothing to offer, Jesus invites us to love him and love others. We are no longer lost when we find our purpose with Jesus.”

Personal reflection questions:

- For young people who aren't followers of Jesus, this message is an invitation. They matter to Jesus. If they feel lost or insignificant, there is someone who loves them, listens to their ideas and values them for who they are.
- For young people who are followers of Jesus and may be struggling, this is a message of encouragement and an invitation to find their place with Jesus. They can find their purpose and make a positive difference because they are a person of significance.
- For young people who may not feel lost or insignificant, this message is a reminder that they probably have friends who are. They can be like Jesus for their friends by encouraging others and serving those who are lost by loving them.

Discussion Questions:

- When have you felt like you have nothing to offer? What happened?
- What brings you a sense of purpose in your life?
- What difference does it make knowing that Jesus has a part for us to play in his plan?