



## THE BIGGER STORY **FOLLOW**

### Session 1

Know and Be Known  
week starting April 24



Each of us is promised a new life through Jesus' death and resurrection. But if you are like me, there are many days where it doesn't feel like we are living a new life. Old patterns persist, defenses keep people at a distance, hurts remain in our hearts and minds. What does it really mean to live a new life? Let's examine Peter's new life as he is discipled by Jesus and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Look for hints of your own story in Peter's story, and witness the power of God's grace in his life. When discipled by Jesus we are known fully and are invited to know Jesus and others in this same way. Vulnerability can be scary - our fears and cycles of shame tempt us to run and hide. But as with Peter, when our relationship with Jesus grows, so does the grace and trust we experience.

### GETTING STARTED

If you are new to one another or have any new group members, be sure to introduce yourselves and share one reason you are participating in or looking forward to this group. Discuss your group covenant and expectations. <https://sov.church/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Covenant-Member-Website.pdf>

- Who knows you really well? How did your relationship and trust grow?

### READ & DISCUSS

1. Read John 21:1–19. After Jesus' appearance and commission to the disciples (see John 20:21), Peter went back to the Sea of Galilee to fish. What happened?
2. When have you had to adjust to a big change? Why is it difficult to leave what's familiar and step outside one's comfort zone?
3. Jesus first called (Simon) Peter in Luke 5:1–11. What do you notice about the nets here and the nets in the John story? What significance might that have? How does Peter respond to Jesus?
4. Jesus is aware of Peter's deepest failure before it happens (see John 13:31–38, John 18:15–18 and 25–27). In Luke's account (Luke 22:54–62) Jesus looks at Peter just as he denies him the third time. Reflect on how Jesus knows you completely, including your deepest flaws. Describe a time you felt the knowing grace of Jesus, even when you fell short.
5. Jesus never gave up on Peter. When restoring and reminding Peter of his calling, the setting was similar (charcoal cooking fire) to when Peter denied him. What are some of your charcoal fire experiences with Jesus? How has he pursued you and shown you how known and loved you are?

### SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

"Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." Luke 5:10

### PRAY

Father, thank you for this opportunity to be here and have space to listen to you. Use my time this week to show me how You know and love me. Help me see and love others through the lens of your grace.

### SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE *Lectio Divina* (Divine Reading, do on your own before next meeting)

Spend 15 minutes with John 21:1–19. Ask God to speak to you—He knows exactly what you need. Read the passage slowly 3 times, each time reflecting and praying as you feel prompted. Journal any thoughts or discoveries you experience.



**SHEPHERD**  
OF THE VALLEY