Hook - Getting to know one another

* Share a story about someone in your life who is quick to forgive, or about a time when you experienced forgiveness from a friend.
* Tim talked Sunday about how Jesus started his friendship with the disciples by helping them miraculously catch some fish. And then again, after his resurrection, he did it again. Share about a time when you were surprised by a way God showed up in your life.

Book - Scripture

* *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand* ***what the text is saying****:*
* **Read John 21: 4-19**
* Talk about the previous week of the disciples life, and of Peter’s life (reference: John 13: 26-28, 18:15-18, 18:25-27). How are they doing right now? What brought them back to the Sea of Galilee. Explain Peter’s response, of jumping off the boat and swimming to shore.
* What are Jesus trying to do through his conversation with Peter in 21:15-19?
* Why do you think Peter’s denial and restoration were included as part of the biographies of Jesus?

Look - Connections to our world today

* *This section focuses on implications about* ***what this text means*** *about what’s wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.*
* Is this conversation between Jesus and Peter just for Peter, or is it for followers of Jesus today? In what ways?
* What does the conversation between Jesus and Peter reveal to us about God’s character?
* What is the good news that you see in this section of Scripture? What brings you hope or encouragement from this story?

Took - Personal Application

* *This application focuses on* ***how God is calling us to respond****. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.*
* Here is a list of some of the main stories from John’s biography of Jesus that we covered in the Graves to Garden sermon series (read these out loud to your small group, so they can remember back):
  + John 1: Jesus desires to spring up a garden within us. His light, in us, not just around us.
  + John 2:1-11, water into wine; God made us to enjoy life and have every moment filled with his presence and pointing to his glory.
  + John 9:1-7, healing the blind man; Jesus opens our eyes and our hearts, maturing us in our faith, opening our eyes to see God’s goodness, to see the restoration of relationships, and to see ourselves.
  + John 14:1-11, I am the Way; to know God, you have to look at Jesus. To come to God, you have to go through Jesus.
  + John 19:17 - 37, the Crucifixion; We can re-enter life with God as its meant to be because of Jesus on the cross, taking on our pain, our sin, and showing us the face of God.
  + John 20:1-18: the Resurrection; we can trust Jesus to lead us back into the Garden (life as it's meant to be), because he defeated the Grave (death itself, which always stood behind pain and sin).
  + John 20:24-31: appearing to Thomas; Jesus calls us from knowing and hearing to belief and trust, leading to life in Christ.
  + John 21:15-19: appearing to Peter; Committing to Jesus is not the finish line but the starting line of a lifetime of following Jesus.
  + **What is the one story from John’s biography of Jesus that stands out to you from this series? How did it change what you know about who Jesus is, or what it means to be his apprentice?**

Time of Prayer