Sunday, 26th April 2020

John 21:1-19   "Do you love me?"

The third time Jesus said to Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep.   John 21:17 (NIV)

To share together:

A few years ago, there was a song called "Love in Any Language" by Sandi Patty.

Can you say, "I love you" in any different languages?

Here are three different languages to say, "I love you" **(see if you can say them!)**

*In German, you would say, **"Ich liebe dich!"***

*In French, you would say, **"Je t'aime!"***

*In Spanish, you would say, **"Te amo!"***

It's easy to say, "I love you," but it can be a lot harder to show we love someone by our actions.

After Jesus was raised from the dead, he appeared to his disciples several times. The third time he appeared to his disciples, Jesus met them on the beach at the Sea of Galilee, and he had the following conversation with Peter.

Jesus said to Peter, "Peter, do you love me?"

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

Then, Jesus said to Peter, "Feed my lambs."

Jesus asked Peter again, "Do you love me?"

Again, Peter answered, "Yes Lord, I love you."

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

A third time Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?"

Peter was very sad that Jesus asked him this question again, but he answered Jesus again, "Lord, you know all things, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Why do you think Jesus asked Peter the same question three times? *(Think about together)*

Perhaps Jesus wanted Peter to understand that it isn't enough just to say, "I love you." We must show our love for Jesus by *showing* our love for one another and caring for one another.

In what ways can we show love for each other today / this week? *(Think about together)*

This is love that can be understood in any language!

Prayer

Dear Jesus, help us to show our love for you by loving and caring for one another. Amen.