Mirror, Mirror: Moments of Reflection Fire to Fire

March 5-6, 2022: Jeff Lucas

This provides about one hour of readings, discussion, and music. This is a springboard for discussion and further study, so use the portions you find most valuable.

1. Self-**confidence** can be **blinding**.

- What stands out to you in the message, from Matthew 26:33-35, and John 18:15-18?
- In what situation have I been overconfident, only to feel ashamed of myself afterward?
- Read and discuss **1** Corinthians **2:3-5**, Philippians **3:2-4**, and Luke **18:9-14**.

2. Failure isn't **final.**

- If I imagine myself in Peter's situation (Matthew 26:33-36, above), realizing that he capitulated to the pressures of the moment, how could I move forward in sharing the gospel with boldness? What is needed to be able to put failure behind me?
- Read the story in John 21:7-22. How does this offer hope to us?
- Read **Acts 15:36-40** and **2 Timothy 4:11**. Paul considered the usefulness of John Mark's ministry, over time; what might have happened to restore their relationship?

3. We **love** because we are so **loved**.

- Read John 21:7. What ideas in this section of the weekend message were interesting?
- Discuss these passages about love: Luke 7:36-47, Ephesians 5:2, and 1 John 4:10 and 19.

4. We're called to more than **survival.**

• Read John 16:33 and Romans 8:31-39. How can we move from "survival" as a Christian to being productive and focused on the mission?

5. God wants our **now.**

• Read John 21:18-19, Psalm 55:16-18, Luke 9:23-24, 1 Corinthians 15:30-31, and Hebrews 3:13. Holding "my plans" loosely, how can I yield to God's priorities?

6. Let's keep our eyes on **Jesus.**

• Read **Hebrews 12:2**. Pastor Jeff asked us to think about this Methodist covenant: *I am no longer my own but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you or laid aside for you, exalted for you or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.*

Close with **Colossians 3:1-4** and this **song**/video:

• "Christ is Enough" <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2ccHq2CCKw</u>