

How God
TRANSFORMED
the Boaster

Introduction:

Since God's plan for transforming the world required that the transformers first be transformed themselves, it became necessary for Him to transform a self-centered braggart into a humble servant!

Text: John 21:1-22

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together.

“I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

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**He called out to them, “Friends,
haven’t you any fish?”**

“No,” they answered.

**He said, “Throw your net on the right
side of the boat and you will find
some.” When they did, they were
unable to haul the net in because of
the large number of fish.**

Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.

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The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.

When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

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Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.”

Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn.

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Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord.

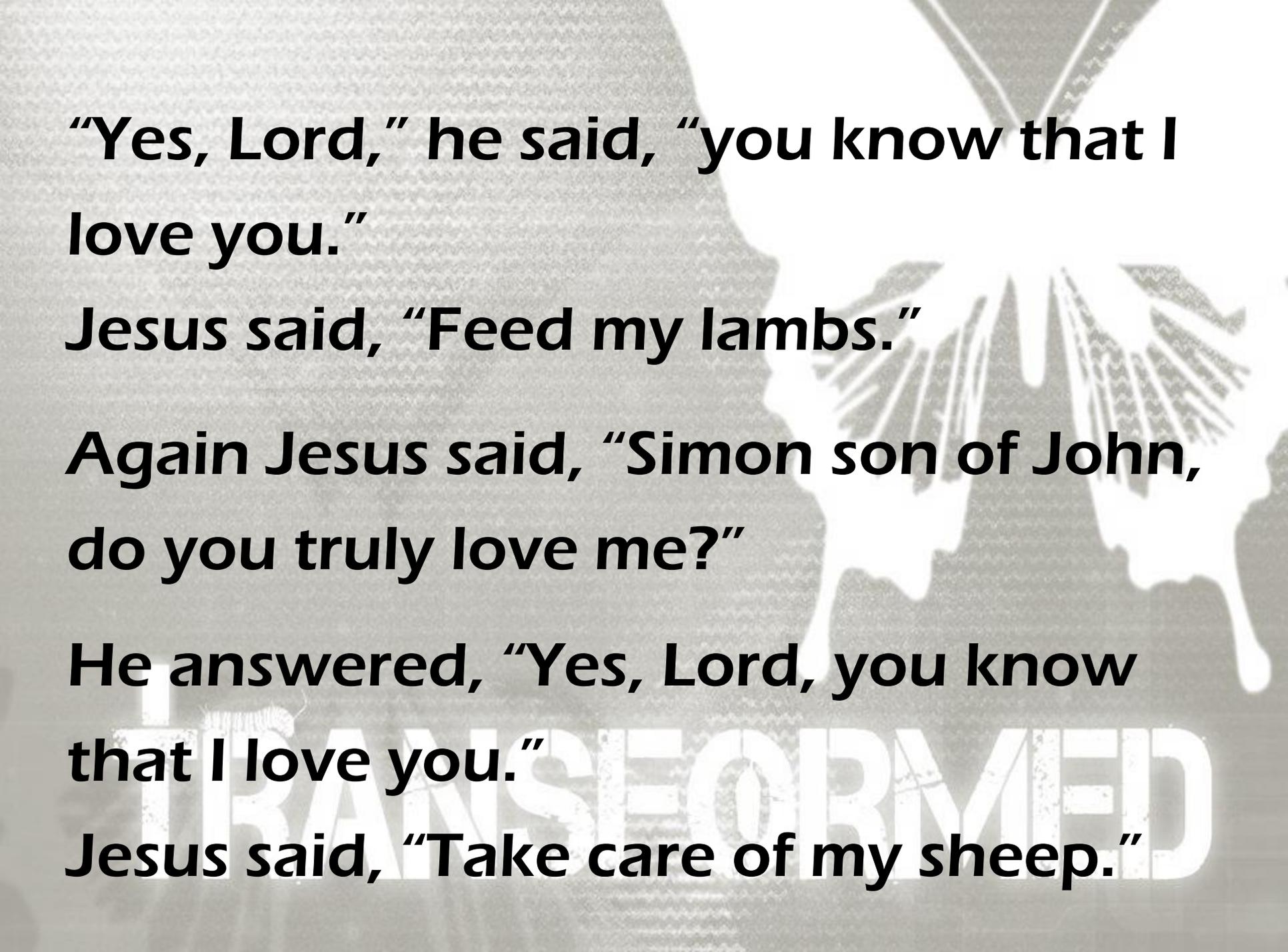
Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

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This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?”

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“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

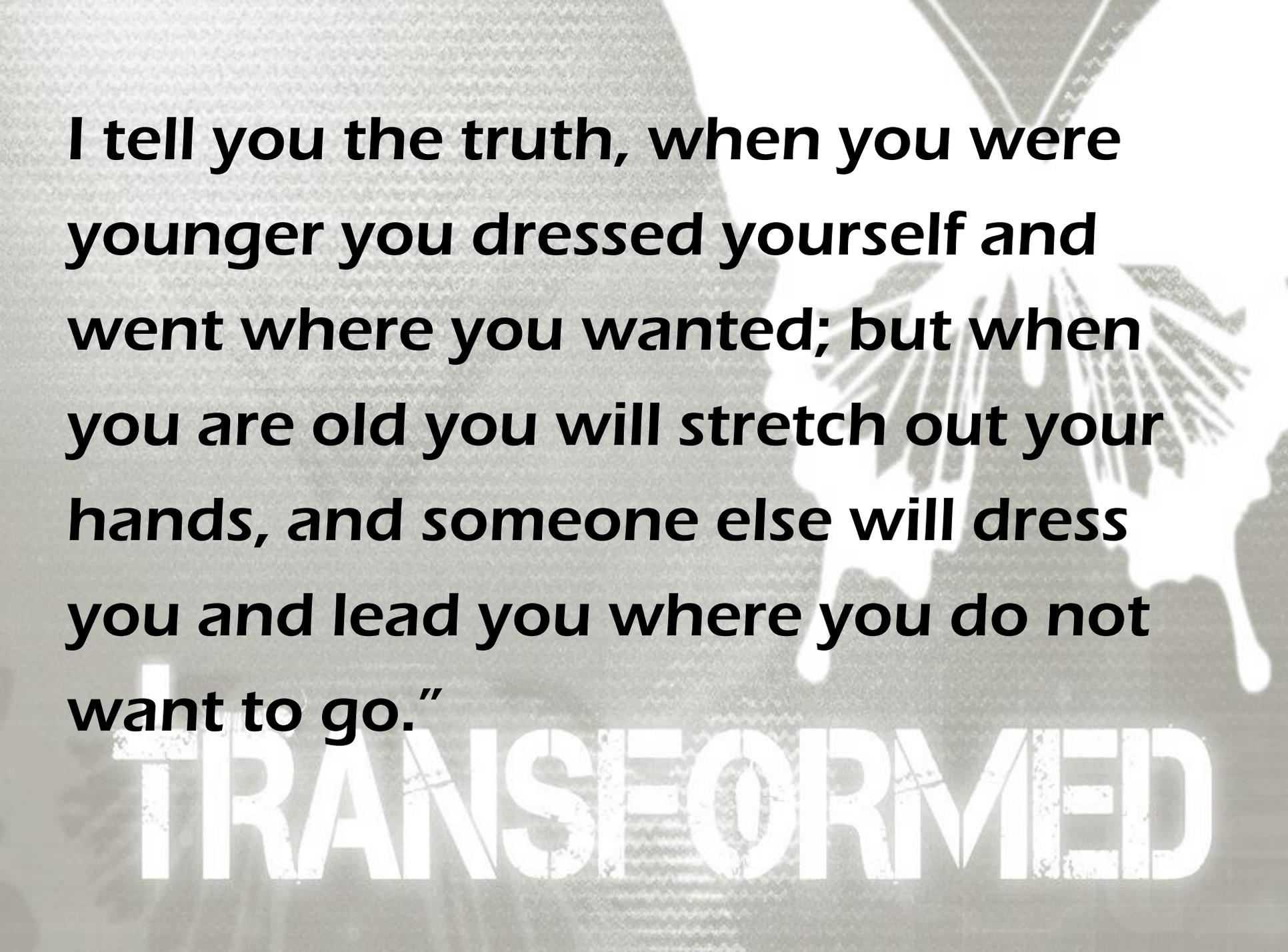
The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

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.”

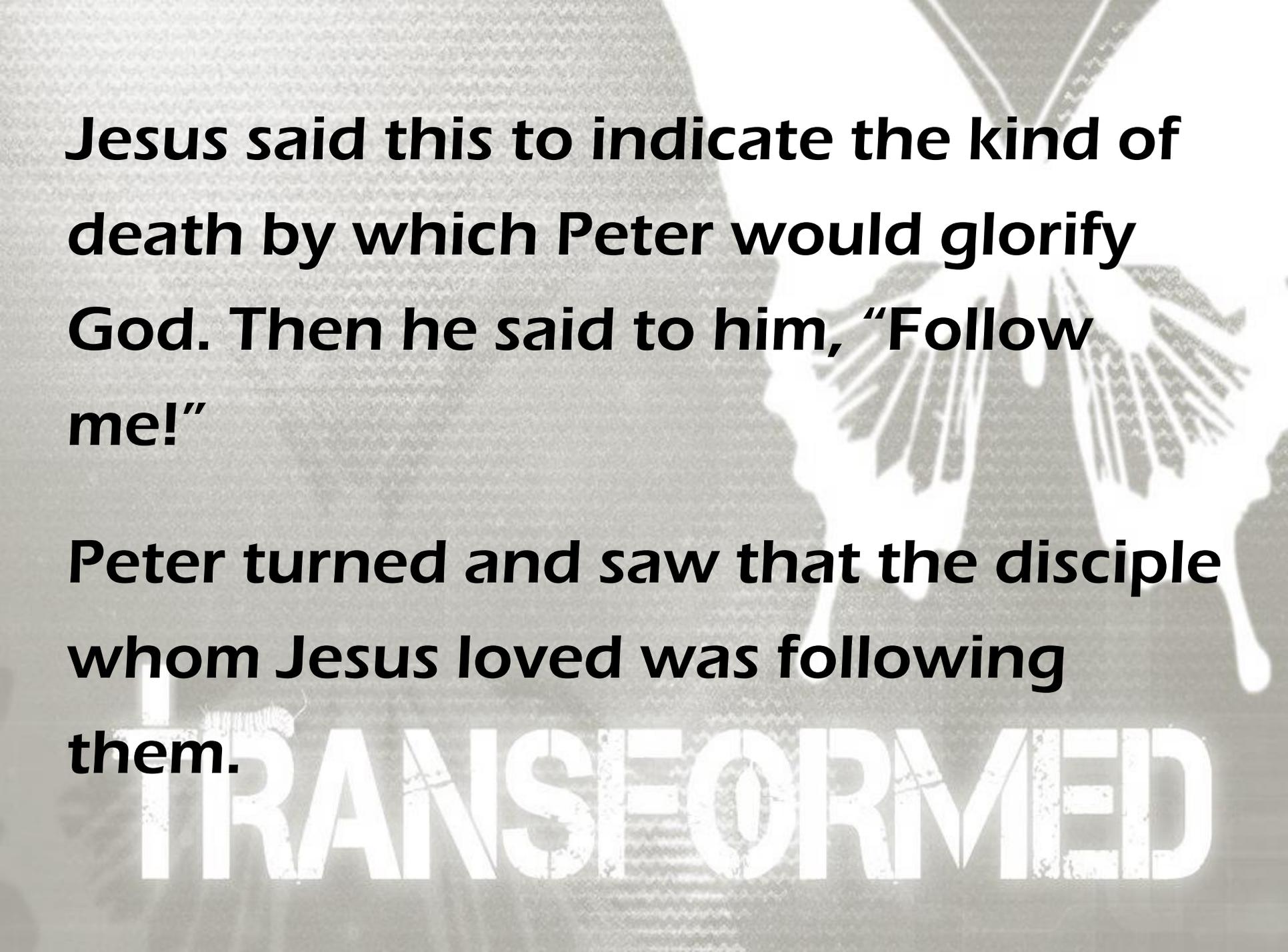
Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.

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I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go."

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Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

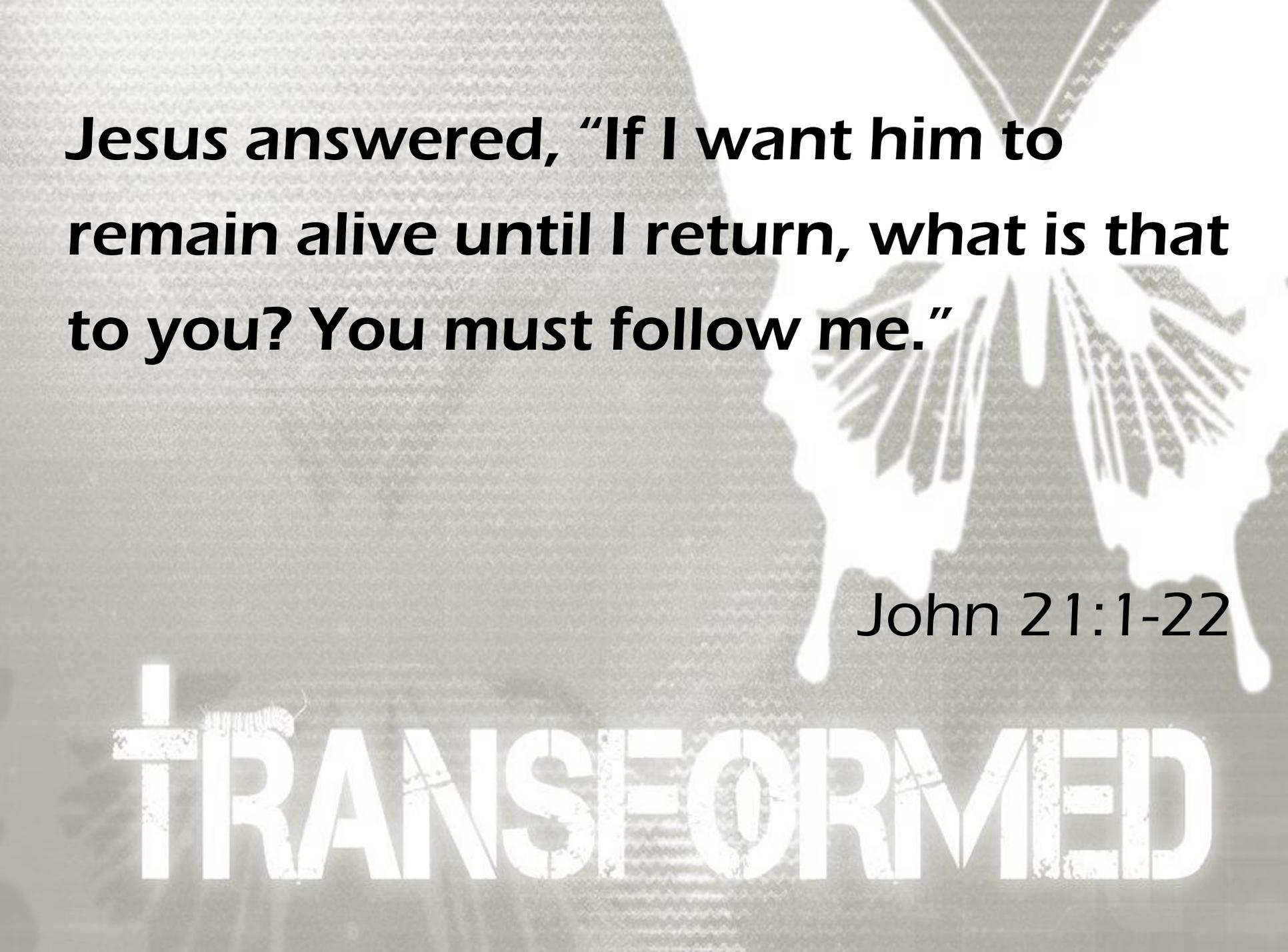
Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them.

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(This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”)

When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?”

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Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.”

John 21:1-22

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Peter had greatness within him,
but he had a few major faults.

He always had to be **FIRST**
and the **CENTER** of
ATTENTION.

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Peter had greatness within him,
but he had a few major faults.

He sometimes crossed the line
between **DECISIVENESS** and
IMPULSIVENESS. There was
that embarrassing time when he
jumped out of a boat, walked on
water, but then got **SCARED**
(Matthew 14:26-31).

Peter had greatness within him,
but he had a few major faults.

He had a hard time handling
SILENCE . There was that
embarrassing time when he offered
to build booths for Jesus, Moses, and
Elijah. The Bible simply says, “He did
not know what he was saying.”

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Peter had greatness within him,
but he had a few major faults.

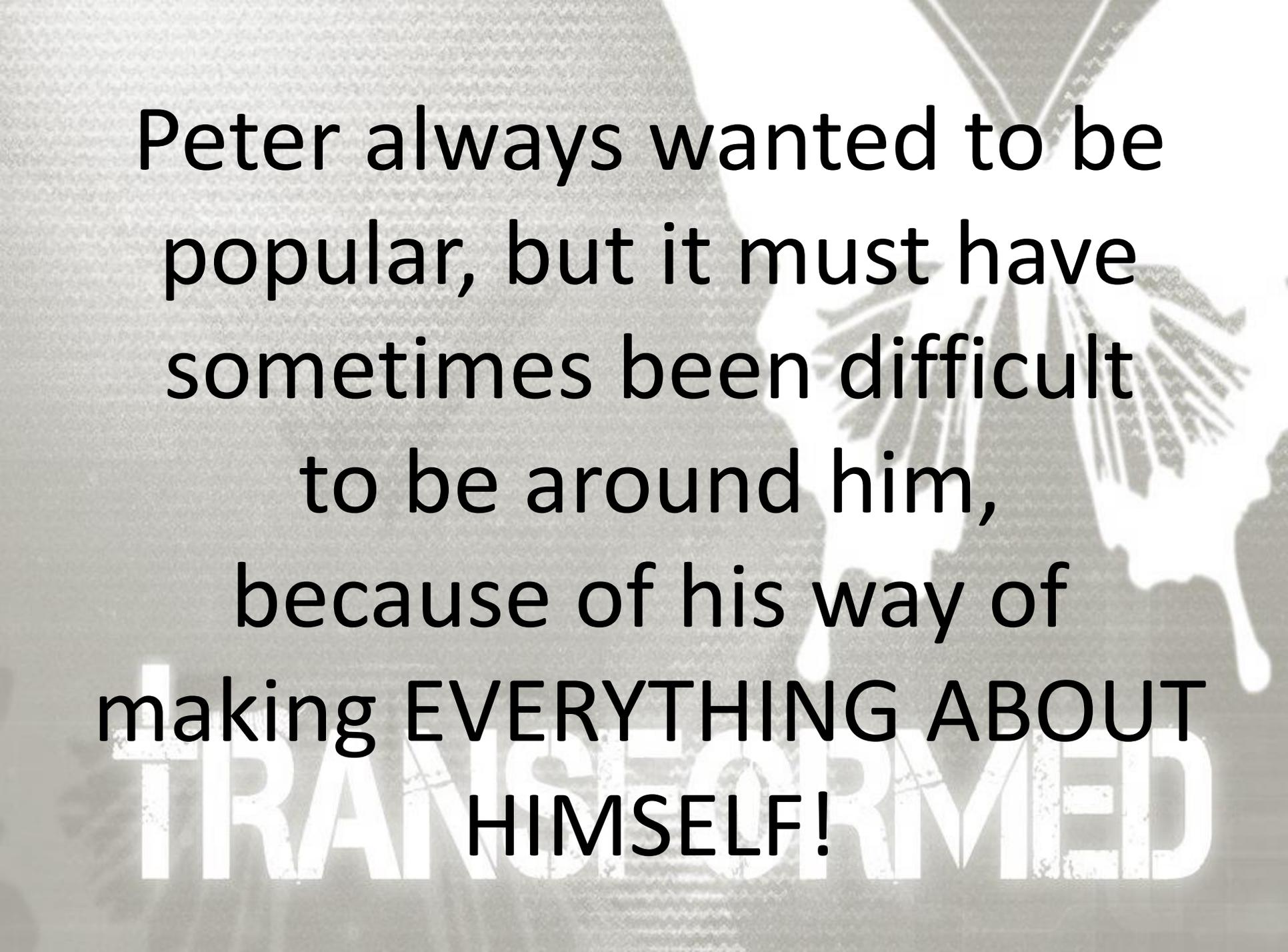
He seemed to feel a constant need to **PROVE** himself to others. He would say **BOLD** things, but then realize that he wasn't able to cash with his actions the checks his mouth had written!

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Peter had greatness within him,
but he had a few major faults.

He didn't always appear to
UNDERSTAND his own
HEART.

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Peter always wanted to be popular, but it must have sometimes been difficult to be around him, because of his way of making **EVERYTHING ABOUT HIMSELF!**

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Peter's greatest failure took place on the night Jesus was arrested.

After saying he would follow Jesus to prison or the grave, he **DENIED** three times that he even knew Him.

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*When Peter denied knowing
Jesus, he was alone,
confused, and frightened.
Not every hero is always a
hero, and not every coward
is always a coward!*

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In spite of Peter's weaknesses,
God had great plans for him!
Peter was destined to:

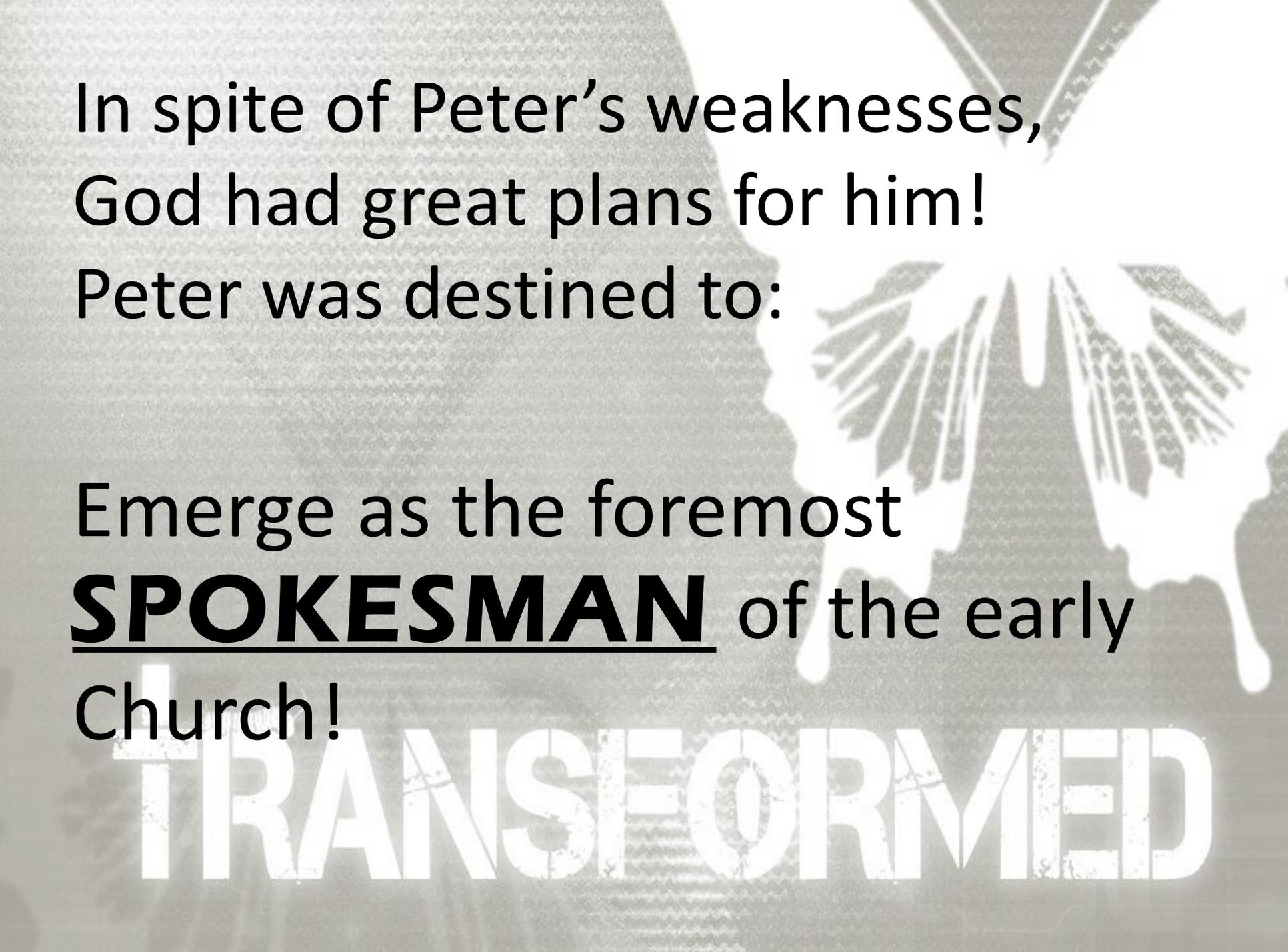
PREACH the first and
greatest **SERMON** of the
Church!

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In spite of Peter's weaknesses,
God had great plans for him!
Peter was destined to:

Lead the first **GENTILE**
CONVERTS into faith in
Jesus Christ!

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In spite of Peter's weaknesses,
God had great plans for him!
Peter was destined to:

Emerge as the foremost
SPOKESMAN of the early
Church!

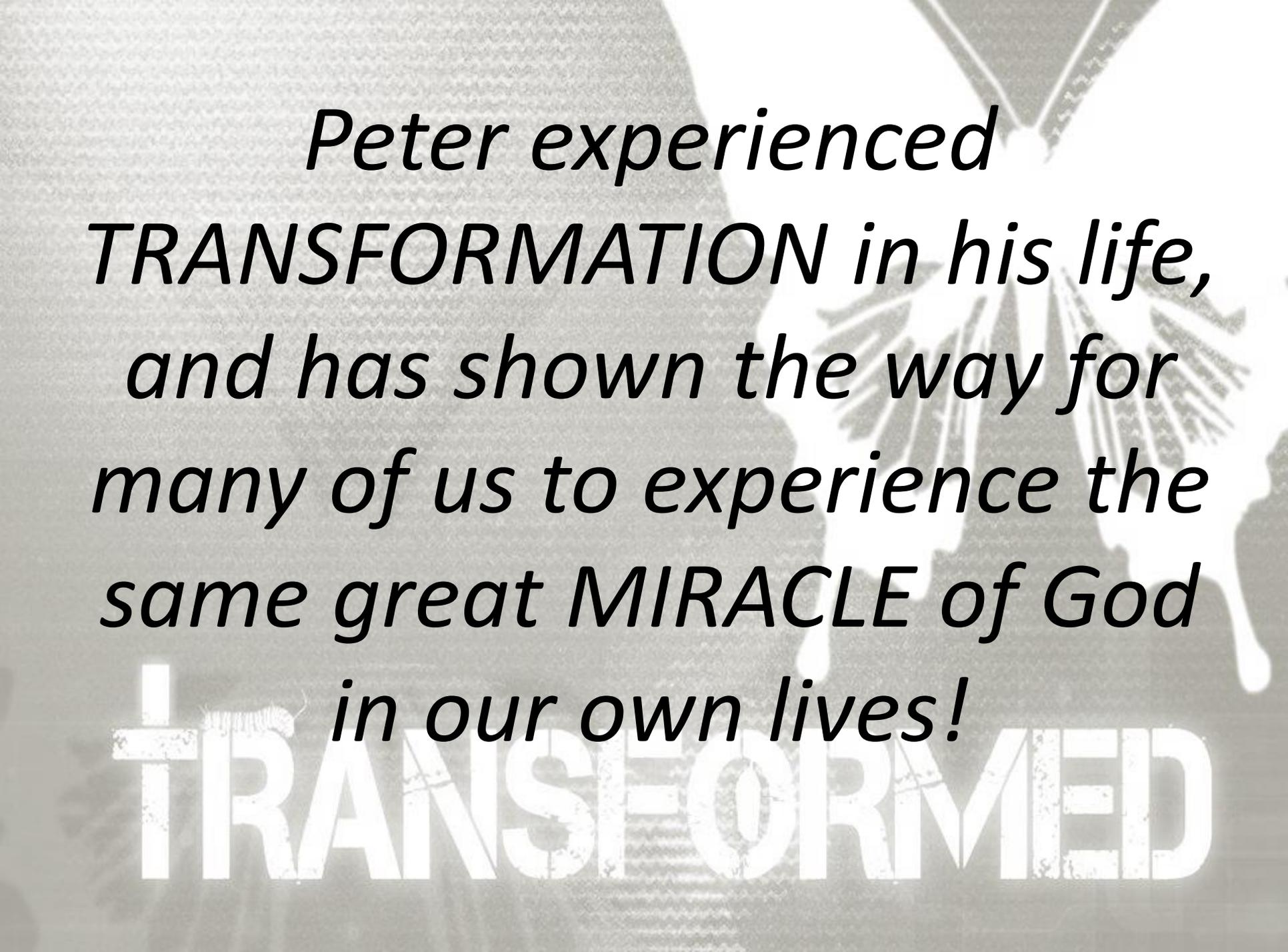
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In spite of Peter's weaknesses,
God had great plans for him!
Peter was destined to:

Follow Jesus into **PRISON**!

Follow Jesus to the **CROSS**!

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*Peter experienced
TRANSFORMATION in his life,
and has shown the way for
many of us to experience the
same great MIRACLE of God
in our own lives!*

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When Jesus asked Peter to feed his sheep, He was asking him to embrace:

His **FAULTS** and **FAILURES**.

Peter was to own them and never forget them.

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When Jesus asked Peter to feed his sheep, He was asking him to embrace:

Jesus' **FORGIVENESS.**

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When Jesus asked Peter to feed his sheep, He was asking him to embrace:

A life of **SERVANTHOOD** that put the needs of others before his own.

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When Jesus asked Peter to feed his sheep, He was asking him to embrace:

A life of **SUBMISSION** to the will of God, which would only require Peter to **KNOW** the will of God, not to **UNDERSTAND** it.

Conclusion:

What are the weaknesses
in YOUR life that God
wants to transform?

What would He need to do
for that to happen?

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