

Peace for the Journey ... April 29, 2010

Scripture Reading: John 21:15-19

*The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not."
(John 18:17)*

*Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.
(John 18:25-27)*

The people God calls to be disciples and sends out into the world are not perfect, just forgiven.

This seems like a cliché, but it should be comforting to anyone who thinks they hear God's call. It's hard to believe that God could or would use people like us to continue Jesus' ministry in the world. There are any number of good reasons we shouldn't answer God call. We're not qualified. We think the others are better suited for ministry. But God still calls ... us.

While it's true that every person is not suited for every kind of ministry, God calls and sends every disciple into the world to love and care for others, to extend the love of God to the people nobody else wants or loves. All Jesus tells Peter -- and us -- to do is, "feed my sheep." All he asks Peter -- and us -- is, "do you love me?"

The point is not that Peter is good. The point is that God is good. Jesus calls Peter, forgives Peter, and sends Peter to continue his (Jesus') ministry in the world. Let him call and send you today.

Jesus says, "follow me."

He's talking to you.