



January has always felt like a weird time of year for me. It's the beginning of a new year, where we're supposed to feel the promise of a fresh start, but so often everyone seems exhausted from a busy holiday schedule, and for those like myself who do not revel in the delights of winter sports, it can be a depressing time of year when you feel more housebound and lacking in vitamin D. Since I began working in secondary school, there's the added paradox of returning from holidays to the end of the semester where everyone's preparing for culminating assignments and final exams! It definitely doesn't feel like a 'fresh start' time of year.

But the scripture passage that our theological theme "Do you love me?" comes from reminds me that fresh starts can happen at any time. The thrice-asked question offers Peter redemption from his triple denial of Christ. Peter's answer, 'Yes, Lord, you know that I love you' is a fresh start, and the beginning of his call to leadership in proclaiming the Good News.

If we're looking for a fresh start, we need to remember that there is no perfectly scheduled moment to begin anew. All it takes is a willingness to recognize where change needs to happen, the will to begin the process of change, and trust that God is walking along beside us for the journey, supporting our every step.



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