

The Gospel of *Matthew*

Session 7



These notes have been put together to be used in Life Groups alongside the Sunday teaching at Wavertree. This week we are reflecting on Peter, the highs and lows of his life and how Jesus still used him to build the church.

“Do you love me?”

John 21:16

If any of your group heard Steve’s talk on the 8th March or Jenny’s talk from our conference you could start by reflecting on what stood out to you.

Peter – Encouragement from an Imperfect Disciple

Peter’s Highs and Lows, he:

- walked on water... then sank
- confessed Jesus... then tried to rebuke Jesus
- cut a man’s ear off
- denied Jesus to a servant girl
- was even called a mouthpiece of Satan
- and yet Jesus said, “Follow me”
- Jesus entrusted him as the rock on which he build his church

READ:

Matthew 26:31-25, 69-75 and John 21:15-19

DISCUSS:

- Why do you think Peter is such a relatable disciple for so many Christians?
- What do Peter's failures teach us about God's grace?
- How does Jesus respond to Peter in John 21:15–19? What stands out to you most?
- Do you ever feel like your failures disqualify you from being used by God?
- What might this passage say to you?

REFLECT: You could take communion together as a group during this reflection

Individually or as a group read: Matthew 27:31-54

At Easter we reflect on the death and resurrection of Jesus, all that He went through to forgive our sins and bring us into relationship with him.

Take some time to quietly thank Jesus for His sacrifice for us.

Invite group members (voluntarily) to finish the sentence:

"Thank you God that if you can use Peter after _____, you can use me after _____"

Praying Like Peter

Pray together for:

- courage to confess Jesus openly
- soft hearts open to God's revelation
- restoration where we have failed
- grace for imperfect leaders (and ourselves)