

"Simon Peter and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day" Pastor Jason West April 28, 2024

### Comes Before the

John 13:21-23 "After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.' The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table at Jesus' side"

John 13:24-26 "so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, 'Lord, who is it?' Jesus answered, 'It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it.' So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot."

John 13:31-32 "When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once.""

John 13:33 "Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.'"

John 13:36 "Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, where are you going?' Jesus answered him, 'Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward.'"

### A. Peter's Bold Proclamation

John 13:37 "Peter said to him, 'Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.'"

•Note: Jesus' Warning - Be Aware of Satan's Work in This World (Luke 22:31-32)

### **B.** Peter Doubles Down

Luke 22:33 "Peter said to him, 'Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death.'"

Mark 14:29 "Peter said to him, 'Even though they all fall away, I will not.'"

 Note: God Gives Us \_\_\_\_\_ of His Word (Luke 22:34)

### C. No Really, I Won't Deny You!

Mark 14:31 "But he said emphatically, 'If I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And they all said the same."

Note: You Will All
and Struggle at Some Point

John 16:31-33 "Jesus answered them, 'Do you now believe? Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart: I have overcome the world."

II. Forge	etting to V	Vatch and	 Will Lead
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Matthew 26:37-38 "And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, 'My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me."

Matthew 26:40-41 "And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, 'So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.""

Matthew 26:42-43 "Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, 'My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.' And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy."

Matthew 26:44-45 "So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, 'Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners'"

### III. We Often Take Matters Into Our Own Hands and Try and

(Matthew 26:51-53; Luke 22:50-51)

IV. \_\_\_\_\_ Christ Leads You to \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 26:57-58)

### A. Three Denials with Escalating Intensity

- 1. 'I Don't Know What You Mean' (Matthew 26:69-70)
- 2. 'I Don't Know the Man' (Matthew 26:71-72)
- 3. Cursing and Swearing, "I Do Not Know the Man!" (Matthew 26:73-74)
- **B.** Peter Weeps Bitterly (Matthew 26:75)

# April 28, 2024



# 1. Familiarize Yourself With the Passage and the Gospel

a. Read Matthew 26:47-56, 69-75

# 2. Introduction to the Passage (Feel free to use this as a reference guide as you discuss the passage)

Literary Context: Peter's zeal for Jesus and rejection of Jesus in these two passages is surrounded by the larger narrative of Jesus' trial. Some think that the trials of Jesus begins when the guards come to arrest him (Matthew 26:47-56). The two drastic reactions that Peter has can be hard to explain. How does one go from an all out zeal to kill Jesus' enemies to denying that he ever knew Jesus in the first place? Not too long before this, Peter had promised that he would never fall away from Jesus, even if the other disciples did (Matthew 26:33). While Peter's passion is commendable, it does teach us that raw emotion in the moment may not be a true indicator of our faithfulness to Christ. This is a warning that we must count the cost if we are claiming to follow Jesus. We must be willing to ask ourselves whether we truly are willing to take up our cross and follow Christ (Matthew 16:24-28).

## 3. Questions About the Passage

- a. What do you think Jesus was trying to teach Peter in Matthew 26:52-54 after he had cut off the high priest's servant's ear?
- b. Judas communicated to the Roman soldiers who were arresting Jesus through a kiss (Matthew 26:48). What is significant about using a kiss?
- c. What is important about Peter's three denials?

## 4. From the Passage to Life

- a. Have you ever found association with Jesus embarrassing or shameful? Have you ever stayed quiet in a moment where you could have spoken boldly for Christ? Share what you struggled with in those moments.
- b. Matthew 26:52-56 naturally brings about conversations on the use of weapons for protection (gun rights, etc.) How should we understand fighting for one's rights, protecting others, and ourselves?
- c. Jesus was submitting to the Father's will as he was being arrested. What can we learn about Christian suffering from Christ's example?

d. Friends can support us in our deepest needs, but also be close enough to cause hurt in some of the deepest ways. What could the Lord be teaching us about friends?