

PEOPLE OF PASSION: PETER

· All In Group Discussion Guide ·
Week of March 3

SCRIPTURES

Mark 8:31-38

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

Luke 22:31-34, 54-62

'Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.' And he said to him, 'Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!' Jesus said, 'I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.'

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, 'This man also was with him.' But he denied it, saying, 'Woman, I do not know him.' A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, 'You also are one of them.' But Peter said, 'Man, I am not!' Then about an hour later yet another kept insisting, 'Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.' But Peter said, 'Man, I do not know what you are talking about!' At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Opening Question:

If you could have a conversation with one person who is no longer alive, who would it be and why?

Questions:

1. Peter is not afraid to put himself out there. Do you relate to Peter? Why or why not?
2. Peter allowed fear to become greater than his passion for Christ, talk about fear. What are your most common fears? How do they hinder your discipleship?
3. Peter fails Jesus. Why is failure so hard to talk about? What does God say about your failures?

Closing Question & Application:

What did God say to you during the conversation today?
How might you live out that learning this week?

Prayer: Hands Up Hands Down

This week, do a "hands down/hands up" prayer. Have people place their hands facing down on their laps. Open with prayer and invite people to speak what they need to let go of and give to God. When it feels like everyone who wants to has spoken, invite people to turn their palms up and invite people to a few moments of silence to receive God's forgiveness, grace, love, and peace. Leave a solid minute or two for silence and then say amen.

