

Peter's Tragic Flaw John 18:12-27

SERMON OUTLINE

Observations on Peter's life:

I. JOHN 1:35-42 - Peter meets Jesus

- A. Simon was a busy, practical, self-sufficient man
- B. Simon became Peter, a zealous disciple of Christ
- C. Peter's zeal did not prevent him from denying Christ
- D. Your zeal has no power to keep you from falling away

II. JOHN 6:60-71 - Peter confesses Jesus

- A. Peter saw the miracle; he saw Jesus teach
- B. Peter makes magnificent confession in vv. 68-69
- C. Peter knew God in ways no one else had ever known
- D. Peter's unprecedented knowledge did not prevent him from denying Christ
- E. Your knowledge will not keep you from falling away

III. JOHN 13-18 - Peter wants to protect Jesus

- A. Peter said he was ready to die for Christ (13:37)
- B. Peter tried to block Jesus from laying down His life (Matt. 16:21-23)
- C. Peter tried to block Jesus from being arrested (18:10)
- D. Peter's bravery did not prevent him from denying Christ
- E. Your courage will not keep you from falling away

IV. JOHN 18:12-27 - Peter denies Christ

- A. Peter misunderstood Jesus' message
- B. Only Jesus could face and endure the cross
- C. Only Jesus could forgive sins
- D. You cannot follow Jesus until He dies for you

APPLICATIONS

- We are not the hero. Jesus is.
- We cannot save ourselves. Only Jesus can save us.
- We cannot keep ourselves in Christ. Only Jesus keeps us in Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who is the most zealous person you know? The most knowledgeable? The most courageous?
2. Andrew talked about suffering from spiritual anxiety. Did you resonate with that? Have you felt this way?
3. Why do you think we feel responsible to save ourselves or to keep ourselves saved?
4. Think of people you know who have left the faith. Why do you think they fell away?
5. How are you most tempted to doubt God? What can we do to remind ourselves that we are not the hero & that God is?

OTHER QUESTIONS THAT MAY HELP

1. What does this text tell us about God?
2. What does this text tell us about man?
3. What should I put on or put off in my thinking?
4. What should I put on or put off in my doing?

LAST WEEK'S HOMEWORK

1. If your mom or grandma taught you the faith, thank her.
2. Make a plan for teaching your family God's Word and ask someone in your CG to hold you accountable.

HOMEWORK

1. Read a familiar Bible story this week. Try to read it with Jesus as the hero and not yourself.
2. Ask God to expose/correct self-sufficiency in your faith.