

## I Failed God

Everyone can relate to Peter at some point because Peter did some dumb stuff that we look at and laugh about today...but probably would have done as well.

**Matthew 26:30-35** - 30 *And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.* 31 *Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'* 32 *But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."* 33 **Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away."** 34 *Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times."* 35 *Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!"* And all the disciples said the same.

I'll never...famous last words. I said I'd never move back to Longview, never be pastor etc.

**Luke 22:54-62** - 54 *Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance.* 55 *And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them.*

- **How do you respond in circles where Jesus isn't popular?** - What do you do at work? What do you do at school?

**Luke 22:56-62** 56 *Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, "This man also was with him."* 57 **But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him."** 58 *And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."* **But Peter said, "Man, I am not."** 59 *And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean."* 60 **But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about."** And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 **And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.** And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." 62 *And he went out and wept bitterly.*

### How to comeback when you feel like you failed God

#### 1. Repent

v 62 He went and wept bitterly. Mark says He broke down and wept. - Repentance.

**2 Corinthians 7:10** - 10 *For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.*

**1 John 1:9** - 9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

#### 2. Return to Mission

**After a failure you return to something...the question is what will you return to?**

Peter went back to familiar. We find him after Jesus' death going back to fishing

3 times he denied Jesus... 3 times Jesus asked if he loved him - Jesus was helping Peter return to mission...he was also providing a way to release the past.

### 3. Release the past

*He erases our failures. One of the greatest ways to release the past is to realize Jesus knew you would fail and loves you anyway. Jesus KNEW you would fail and still made provision for you.*

**Luke 22:31-32** - 31 *“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, 32 but **I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.**”*

Not IF you fail but WHEN. He knew it before and he prayed for him to be strong through it.

**Mark 16:7** - 7 *But go, tell his disciples **and Peter** that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, **just as he told you.**”*

Yeah I know you failed me...but I'm letting you know. I love you. I want to see you. I'm not done with you. He called out Peter...the failure.

### 4. Refocus on the future

Your past does not dictate your future. Realize that your failure is not final.

**Proverbs 24:16** - 16 *for the righteous **falls seven times and rises again***

**The measure of a person isn't how many times they fail, but how many times they get back up.**

**Romans 8:28** - 28 *And we know that for those who love God **all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.***

Peter would go on to preach an incredible message at the birth of the church, which is what we will look at after Easter, and 3000 people got saved and baptized.

The same guy who denied Jesus 3 times now led 3000 people to Jesus.

**Romans 8:34** - 34 *Who is to condemn? **Christ Jesus** is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, **who indeed is interceding for us.***

**Who is waiting on your comeback?**