



DISTANCING YOURSELF FROM DENIAL

LUKE 22:54-62

I. Peter distanced himself from Jesus by following from _____ .

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. v. 54

II. Peter distanced himself from Jesus by blending in with the _____ .

And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. v. 55

III. Peter distanced himself from Jesus by denying Him _____ .

Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not." 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." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." vv. 56-60a

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." And he went out and wept bitterly. vv. 61-62

■ NEVER DENY. ALWAYS CONFESS.

Never think of yourself as _____. Always think of yourself as _____ .

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment ... Romans 12:3a

Never rely on your own _____. Always rely on the Lord's _____ .

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9a

Never try to fix _____. Always confess your need for the Lord's _____ .

"Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool." Isaiah 1:18

... if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself. 2 Timothy 2:13





Your Invitation Can Change a Life

Bring someone with you this Easter to hear the gospel. RSVP for you and a friend!

Communion

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" (1 Cor 11:26). Learn more about how we remember Jesus and proclaim Him as our risen Savior through the Lord's Supper.



YOUR NEXT STEP AT Christ Chapel



Connect and Belong

New or returning, fill out a Connect Card and experience life together at Christ Chapel.

Together in Prayer

We want to pray with and for you this week as we go to God together.



Partner With Us by Giving

Be a part of what God is doing near and far by giving to local and global ministry partners.

Upcoming Events

Join in to grow your faith, make disciples, and reach those who do not know or walk with Jesus.



HOME GROUP

Lesson + Devotional

Before you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Read Luke 22:54-62. In what ways does Peter fall short of Jesus' teaching through v. 60? How does each choice he makes put him nearer to failure?
2. What did Jesus say during His prediction of Peter's denial (vv. 31-34), and how might remembering that later have encouraged a despondent Peter?
3. Why was this experience of brokenness important in Peter's development?
4. What are some ways we deny Jesus, either daily or when under pressure?
5. How do you feel about yourself after you deny Him, and how do those feelings lead you to repentance?
6. How do you imagine Jesus looks at you when you fail Him? How did this sermon help you see the way He really feels about you?
7. Look over the three *never/always* applications section at the bottom of the sermon notes. As you do, ask and answer these diagnostic questions:
 - FIRST SECTION: How do I think of myself?
 - SECOND SECTION: What am I relying on?
 - THIRD SECTION: I failed—now what?
8. Which of the three *never/always* warning phrases here do you need to take to the Lord in prayer right now, and what steps do you need to take?

HELPFUL

Quotes

It is a dangerous thing to follow the Lord afar off. This is what Peter did. ... Peter was moving toward his shameful fall as he followed afar off and then sat with the wrong crowd. ... if Peter had left things like this, it would have been his finish. He would have ended like Judas Iscariot, but notice what happened: And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. *And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, "Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice." And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.* Simon Peter loved Jesus, and he was sincere when he promised to be loyal to Him, but he did not know his own weakness. He had not yet come to the place where he saw no good in the flesh at all. Peter wept. These were tears of genuine repentance. Any child of God can come back to Him. *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).* Simon Peter was as bad as Judas—he did not sell Him, but he denied Him. The difference between Judas and Peter is that Peter repented. Our Lord prayed that Peter's faith would not fail.

- J. Venon McGee

It is to Peter's credit that all the Lord had to do was look at him to bring him to the place of repentance. - Warren Wiersbe

A WONDERFUL Offer

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Admit that you're a sinner, separated from a holy and perfect God. **(Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)**
2. Understand that the penalty for your sin is death – eternal separation from God and all that is good. **(Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)**
3. Believe that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and conquered death by rising from the dead. **(Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)**
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior from sin and death and your provider of true and eternal life. **(Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)**

You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in him alone as the only way to be reconciled to you. Thank you for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen.



We'd love to know about your decision. Scan the QR code to learn more about following Jesus!