

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION – A LIVING HOPE – STUDY OF I PETER
Week 2 – A Look At The Events That Shaped Peter

I Pet 1.3 - ³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ¹

Central Bible Truth: Everything stems from our confession that Jesus is Lord and Savior

Matt 16.16-17 (NIV)

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven." Error! Bookmark not defined.

Peter's Calling / Peter walking on water **submission / service**

Peter's confession of Jesus as the Christ / Peter's Sermon at Pentecost – **surrender and salvation**

Peter's rejection of the cross and suffering / Mount of transfiguration – **Suffering and Splendor**

Peter's denial of Christ / Jesus' Restoration of Peter – **sin and sanctification**

Contrast Peter in the Gospels

Impulsive, restless, sometimes fearless, sometimes a coward

With Peter in I Peter

Patient, restful, loving, courage purified and strengthened by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit – transforming work of God in human life

1. Submission / Service

Peter's calling by Jesus / Peter walking on water

Matt 4.18-20 (NIV) / Mark 1.16-20 / Luke 5.1-11-

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ **“Come, follow me,”** Jesus said, **“and I will make you fishers of men.”** ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him. Error! Bookmark not defined.

Matt 14.22-36 (NIV)

²² Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. ²⁵ During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. ²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: **“Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”** ²⁸ “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ **“Come,”** he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. **“You of little faith,”** he said, **“why did you doubt?”** ³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.” ³⁴ When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret. ³⁵ And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him ³⁶ and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed. Error! Bookmark not defined.

- Jesus began to gather disciples
 - Jesus called Peter by the sea of Galilee
 - Remotest part of the nation
 - Inhabitants less cultivated and refined
 - Fisherman were considered unrefined Galileans
 - Language broad and uncouth
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- “Lord if it is you tell me to come to you” – not allow me to walk on water
 - Peter understanding the will of God – Not acting rashly
 - Peter’s faith and resolution in getting out of the boat – fear and self reliance in the sinking
 - Peter good swimmer being a fisherman
 - V. 33 – doubt - << ***edistassas*** >> pulled two ways – standing uncertainly at two ways
 - Obedience and action – characterized by
 - Hesitation instead of wholeheartedness
 - Impulsiveness instead of faith
 - Fear instead of trust
 - self reliance instead of reliance on God
 - ***I Pet 2.13-17 (NIV)*** – Submission to authority is service to God
- ¹³ Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴ or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant

talk of foolish men.¹⁶ Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God.¹⁷ Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.^{Error! Bookmark not defined.}

- ***I Pet 3.12 (NIV)*** – Eyes of the Lord are on the righteous – ears are attentive to their prayers
¹² *For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.*^{Error! Bookmark not defined.}
- ***I Pet 5.7(NIV)*** – God cares for us – cast our cares upon Him
⁷ *Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.*^{Error! Bookmark not defined.}

2. Surrender / Salvation

Peter's confession of Jesus as the Christ / Peter's sermon at Pentecost

Matt 16.13-20 (NIV) / Mark 8.27-30 / Luke 9.18-21 –

only Matt has follow on comments v. 18 and 19

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”¹⁴ They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”¹⁵ “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”¹⁷ Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”²⁰ Then he warned his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.^{Error! Bookmark not defined.}

Acts 2:22-24, 29-41 (NIV)

²² “Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know.²³ This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

²⁹ “Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day.³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne.³¹ Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay.³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.³³ Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.³⁴ For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, “The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand³⁵ until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”³⁶ “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.^{Error! Bookmark not defined.}

- Peter's answer is short but full and true
- Primary confession of the Christian faith
- Act of devotion
- Confession of the true God as the living God as opposed to dumb and dead idols
- Gates of Hades – authority and power – organized power of Satan and death will not prevail against the Church

- Keys to the kingdom – manifest at Pentecost – open the doors of faith to the Jews and Samaritans
- You must confess your sins, believe that Christ died for your sins, and that He was raised
- **I Pet 1.2 (NIV)** – Salvation comes only through the sanctifying work of Jesus on the cross
² *who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.* Error! Bookmark not defined.
- **I Pet 1.10-12 (NIV)** – The prophets and angels were searching for the revealing of Jesus as the Messiah
¹⁰ *Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, ¹¹ trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.* Error! Bookmark not defined.

3. Suffering / Splendor

Peter's rejection of the cross and suffering of Jesus / Peter at the Mt. of Transfiguration

Matt 16.21-23 (NIV) / Mark 8.31-33

²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. ²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" ²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." Error! Bookmark not defined.

Matt 17.1-13 (NIV) / Mark 9.2-13 / Luke 9.28-36

¹ After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. ⁴ Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." ¹⁰ The disciples asked him, "Why then do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?" ¹¹ Jesus replied, "To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things. ¹² But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands." ¹³ Then the disciples understood that he was talking to them about John the Baptist. Error! Bookmark not defined.

- "From that time" – meaning after the confession of Lordship – faith grew enough so that they could handle the cross
- Peter responding from earthly wisdom – denying the pain and suffering of the cross
- We are startled at the offense of the cross
- Whoever stood in the way of the crucifixion and our salvation came from Satan
- Peter the stone becomes the stumbling block
- Peter has enough faith to confess that Jesus was the Son of God but not enough to believe that it was right for Jesus to suffer and die

- Satan's philosophy – Glory without suffering vs. God's philosophy – Suffering transformed into Glory
- Disciples had to learn that glory came from and goes with suffering
- Peter had opposed Jesus going to Jerusalem to die so Jesus had to teach him that apart from Jesus' suffering and death there could be no glory
- **I Pet 1.3-4 (NIV)** – The security of inheritance that will never fade, rust or disappear
³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you,
- **I Pet 5.10-11 (NIV)** – Suffering for God will bring the splendor of God
¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

4. Sin / Sanctification

Peter's denial of Christ / Jesus restoration of Peter

Matt 26.69-75 (NIV) / Mark 14.66-72 / Luke 22.54-62

⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said. ⁷⁰ But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said. ⁷¹ Then he went out to the gateway, where another girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁷² He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!" ⁷³ After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them, for your accent gives you away." ⁷⁴ Then he began to call down curses on himself and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

Mark 16.7 (NIV) / Luke 24.33-35 (NIV) / I Cor 15.5 (NIV)

⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'

³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." ³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

⁵ and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve

John 21.15-19 (NIV)

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." ¹⁷ The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." ¹⁸ I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹ Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

- Peter had boasted of what he could accomplish
- Peter compared himself to others
- Peter didn't listen to Jesus in the Garden
- Peter didn't pray

- Peter had a chance to leave after the first time
- After His resurrection Jesus met privately with Peter and restored him
- Jesus also restored him publicly
- After dinner as a friend
- Clearly reinstating Peter as an apostle
- Token of reconciliation
- Jesus' purpose
 - Restore him to apostleship and renew his commission now that he had repented of his sin
 - Designed to quicken him to a diligent discharge of his office as an apostle
 - Repeated message to all disciples – be fishers of men / evangelists but also feed my flock / edify the saints
- ***1 Pet 1.2-3 (NIV)*** – Sin can only be washed away by the blood of Jesus
² *who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.* ³ *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*
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Conclusion:

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¹ *The Holy Bible : New International Version.* Grand Rapids : Zondervan, 1996, c1984