

## **Easter**

### Lesson 4

Mark 14:66-72; John 21:1-25

April 12, 2020

## **To Hope Again**

### **Introduction**

Peter denied Jesus three times. Every denial was worse than the first, and by the end, Peter was distraught. He had drawn a sword on Jesus' behalf after he had boasted about not falling away or disowning Jesus. Yet, Peter denied knowing Jesus, and as the comments about Peter being an apostle became more and more public, Peter's denial became more and more vehement. Imagine how hopeless Peter felt when he heard the rooster crow.

Now fast forward a bit. After Jesus' resurrection, He appeared to the apostles several times. During one of those instances, Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him. Peter answered in the affirmative all three times. But Jesus wasn't just asking about Peter's love; he was giving Peter a duty. It wasn't enough to love Jesus; Peter needed to serve Him as well. And this is exactly what Peter did until the day he died.

***Memory verse: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."—1 John 1:9***

Pray and read Mark 14:66-72 and John 21:1-25

What questions or observations do you have about these passages?

**What do the passages say?**

1. What did the servant girl say to Peter and what was his response? (Mark 14:67-68)
  
2. What did those standing near Peter say and what was his response? (Mark 14:70-71)
  
3. What did Peter do when he remembered what Jesus had said to him? (Mark 14:72)
  
4. What did Jesus tell the disciples who were fishing, and what were the results? (John 21:6)
  
5. When Peter realized it was Jesus, what did he do? (John 21:7)
  
6. What did Jesus ask Simon Peter? What was Simon Peter's answer? What was Jesus' command? (John 21:15-17)

Question	Answer	Command


7. What did Jesus tell Peter, and why? (John 21:18-19)
8. What rumor spread, and how did this rumor start? (John 21:20-23)

### **What do the passages mean?**

1. Peter was Jesus' first disciple and obviously loved Him. But this didn't stop Peter from denying he knew Jesus. There is no doubt that Peter failed Jesus. What does the Bible say will happen to those who deny Jesus? (Matthew 10:33; Mark 8:38; Romans 1:28; 2 Timothy 2:12)
2. Every time we deny Jesus, it moves us further from God. How can we stay close to Jesus despite our failures? (Psalm 1:2-3; Ephesians 6:10, 13-17; 1 Peter 5:8-9; 1 John 1:9)

3. Despite Peter's denial, Jesus restored him to service. Peter was repentant for what he had done. How can we be restored to serve God after we have failed God? (Joel 2:13; Acts 3:19; 1 John 1:9)
  
4. Reread John 21:15-17. Three times Jesus give Peter a task. What are those tasks? What tasks does God give us? What should our motivation be for following Jesus and serving Him? (Proverbs 31:8-9; Luke 5:9-10, 10:27; John 14:21; 1 Timothy 4:12; 1 Peter 3:15)

### **Applying the passages**

1. Have you ever denied Jesus? Have you ever remained silent instead of taking an opportunity to share the love of God? How did you feel afterward? Were the reasons you stayed silent or verbally denied God real threats or perceived?

