



# Jesus turned and looked at Peter

Luke 22:54-62

[based on the sermon preached on 19.6..22 – available on the [church app](https://churchapp.org.au) or at <https://lwac.org.au/sermons>]

## KEY IDEAS

1. At the Last Supper, Peter replied to Jesus, “I am ready to go with you to prison and to death (Luke 22:33).”
2. Jesus responds to Peter that “before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.”
3. After Jesus is arrested, Peter follows to the courtyard of the house of the High Priest, where he disowns Jesus by denying three times that he knows him.
4. After his third denial, Jesus turns and looks straight at Peter (22:61).
5. Peter is filled with great sorrow.
6. Jesus restores Peter (John 21).

## CONNECT

- Have you ever felt that you let God down in some way? Perhaps you believed God was asking you to do something and you didn’t go through with it, or you had an opportunity to do good but didn’t do it, or maybe you joined others in speech or behaviour that was not God-honoring, but you went along with the crowd even though you knew it was wrong. What was that like?

## STUDY

### Read Luke 22:31-34

- Does it concern/frighten you to think that Satan desires to so directly attack us as follows of Jesus, or does it reassure you that when the attacks come, Jesus intercedes for us?
- Jesus knew that Peter would fail, but he doesn’t condemn him for this, in fact, he reassures him that he would also be restored. What comfort and confidence can we find in this for our own lives?
- Have you ever been, like Peter in v. 33, over-confident about something, maybe even something you were doing for God? What was the result?

## Read Luke 22:39-53

- The disciples were all tired out, exhausted from sorrow, and couldn't stay awake. What tires or exhausts you? If you find serving Jesus exhausting instead of energizing and refreshing, what might be the reason?
- When the crowd came to arrest Jesus, led by Judas, the disciples sought at first to defend Jesus with swords. Do we, like the disciples, sometimes resort to ways of the world to accomplish God's purposes?
- How might the words of the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:12 help us understand this: "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood . . . but against spiritual forces of evil in heavenly realms."?
- If we find ourselves resorting to the world's methods to do Kingdom work, what will be the ultimate result?

## Read Luke 22:54-62

- Peter faces three observations/accusations about his relationship to Jesus, to which he utters three progressively stronger denials: from "*I am not **with him**,*" which is a denial of individual association, to "*I am not **with them**,*" which is a denial of corporate association or discipleship, to "*I am not even **like him**,*" which is a denial of identity. In this, Peter sinks lower with each denial. Why did Peter utter these denials? Of what was he afraid?
- It is easy to criticize Peter for his denials, but is this fair? Is our criticism justified, or should we be compassionate?

## Read John 21:15-19

- What do you think Peter was experiencing in the time between Jesus' crucifixion and this conversation by the Sea of Galilee?
- How important to Peter's ultimate boldness and success in ministry (Act 1-15) was Jesus' personal restoration of him here, by the Sea of Galilee?
- Are you in need of Jesus' personal restoration today in any area of your life, after experiencing disappointment or failure?
- If so, the path to restoration is:
  - to acknowledge what has happened and your role in and responsibility for it,
  - confess your inability to resolve it on your own,

- o repent in Godly sorrow for what you have done wrong in this situation,
- o seek Christ's forgiveness for any wrong-doing or sin on your part,
- o and receive Christ's gracious love and forgiveness, which sets us free from both guilt (for what we've done) and shame (how we feel about what we've done).

## **APPLY**

- Which aspect of this study has struck you the most and why? What are you going to do as a result ?
- Identify one or more truths from this study which speak to and can be applied in your life.
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.

## **PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH AND FOR ONE ANOTHER**

- According to need.