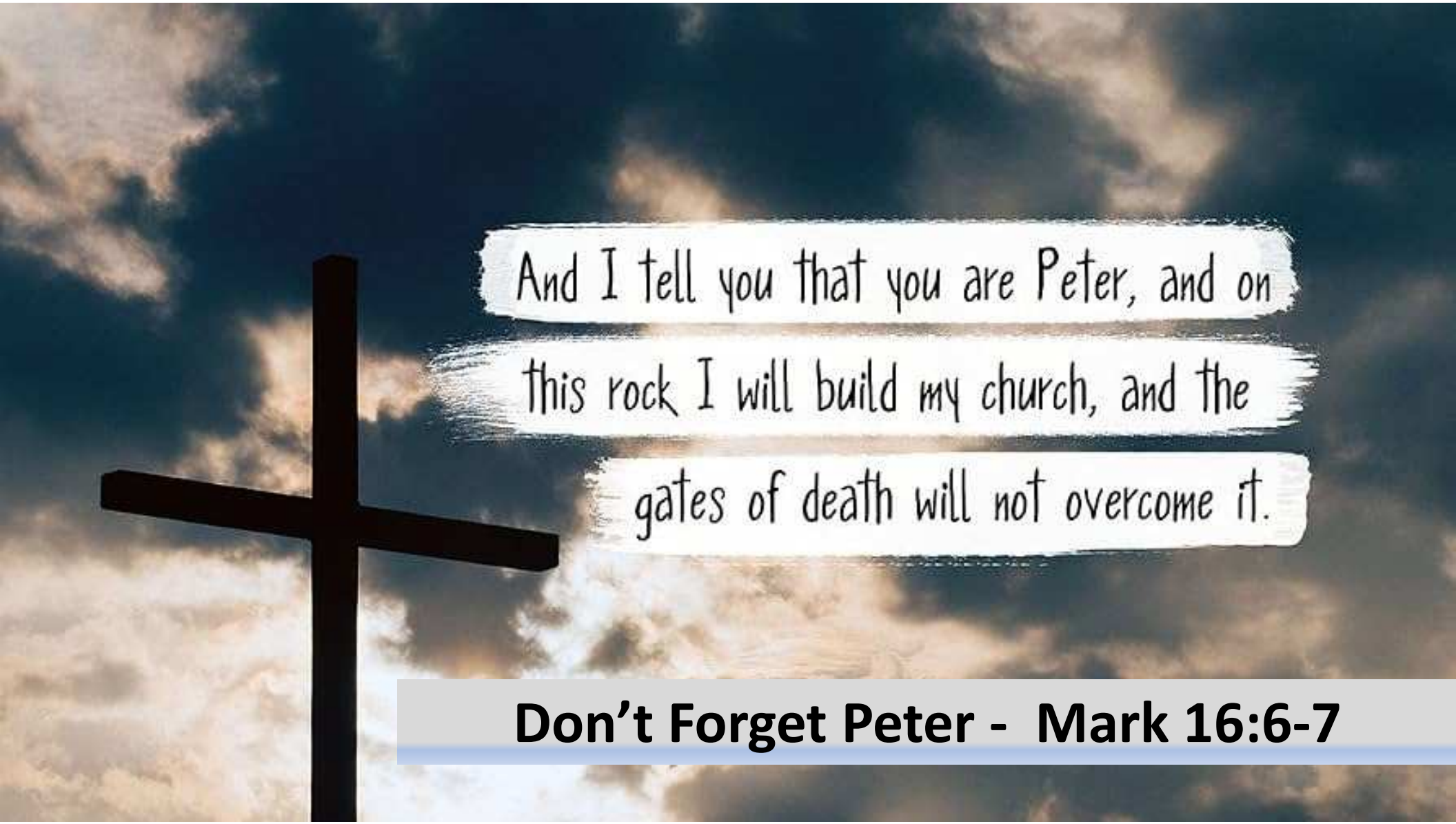


Don’t Forget Peter - Mark 16:6-7

Don’t Forget Peter

- Proverbs 16:18 NIV, “Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.”
  - MSG, “First pride, then the crash—the bigger the ego, the harder the fall.
  - Jewish traditional understanding, “Arrogance precedes a breaking, and haughtiness precedes a stumbling”
  - Haughtiness - means someone acting "above" everyone else
    - An attitude where you act as if you are better than other people

Don’t Forget Peter

- Proverbs 16:18 NIV, “Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.”
  - Luke 18:9-14 NIV, 9 To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: 10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’.”

Don’t Forget Peter

- Proverbs 16:18 NIV, “Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.”
  - Luke 18:9-14 NIV, 13 “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’
    - 14 “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Don’t Forget Peter

- We even see this type of attitude displayed in Jesus’ disciples as He was marching toward the cross
  - Luke 22:24 NIV, “A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest.”

Don’t Forget Peter

- We see this type of attitude displayed in Jesus’ disciples as He was marching toward the cross
  - Luke 22:31-34 NIV, 31 “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”
    - 33 But he replied, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.”
    - 34 Jesus answered, “I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.”

Don’t Forget Peter

- We see this type of attitude displayed in Jesus’ disciples as He was marching toward the cross
  - Luke 22:60-62 NIV, 60 Peter replied, “Man, I don’t know what you’re talking about!” Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times.” 62 And he went outside and wept bitterly.

Don’t Forget Peter

- What word(s) would you use to describe Peter here?
  - Ruined, Failure, Hopeless, Worthless, Beyond Repair, Done
- What happened?
  - Pride clouded Peter’s vision
  - Peter refused to believe he would ever deny Jesus
  - Peter refused to believe the caution Jesus gave him
  - Peter succumbed to the powerful force of pride
    - Succumbed - to stop resisting a powerful force, temptation

Don’t Forget Peter

- Hebrews 12:1 NIV, “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the *(your)* sin that so easily entangles *(you)*.”
  - The Deadliest Catch – care in throwing over the ropes
  - This tells me each of us battle a powerful force or temptation that longs to drag us to ruined, failure, hopeless
  - Maybe some sort of addiction, depression/anxiety, family failures, past bad decisions, repeated failures
  - When we succumb to our hindering sins the enemy implants his thoughts and opinions of us to drag us away God

Scripture

- Mark 16:6-7 NIV, “6 “Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. 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.’”

Don’t Forget Peter

- We find Peter with a repentant heart and no way to ask Jesus for forgiveness, no way to show his remorse for his decisions
  - Luke 22:62, “And he went outside and wept bitterly.”
  - No opportunity for Peter to say, “I’m sorry Jesus” and “Can I have a do over please?”
  - Can you hear Peter ask himself, “What now? Why even try?”
    - “Probably just need to get back fishing.”

Don’t Forget Peter

- We find Peter with a repentant heart and no way to ask Jesus for forgiveness, no way to show his remorse for his decisions
  - Peter is not thinking about the second part of Jesus’ prophecy
    - Vs. 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”
    - Hear Jesus say, “Peter, this is not the end of our story”
- Before you point your finger at Peter in judgement please understand, this could just as easily be you or me

Here was my first question, “Why did Jesus find it necessary to specifically tell Peter?”

- I wonder what the responses were from the other disciples?
  - Some may have judged and criticized Peter in their hearts and avoided or shunned him
  - Some may have empathized with Peter looking to encourage and prop him up, which he wouldn’t accept
  - All would have looked at Peter differently

Here was my first question, "Why did Jesus find it necessary to specifically tell Peter?"

- Matthew 16:16-18 NIV, 15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."
  - 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, 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.
  - How could Peter now be the rock Jesus talked about?

Here was my first question, “Why did Jesus find it necessary to specifically tell Peter?”

- Whatever the disciples' responses were, they were nothing compared to the responses Peter had for himself
  - “I thought I was stronger, more faithful, second in command able”
  - “Who am I now?”
  - “What did Jesus think of me before He died?”
  - “What does He think of me now that He’s alive again?”

Here was my first question, “Why did Jesus find it necessary to specifically tell Peter?”

- Whatever the disciples' responses were, they were nothing compared to the responses Peter had for himself
  - “Is there still redemption for me, hope for me, a place for me?”
  - “Will Jesus still allow me to be in His kingdom?”
  - “What future do I now have in Jesus’ Kingdom or am I still allowed in, did I lose my position?”
  - “Is there any way back for me and what does that road look like since Jesus is dead?”

Here was my first question, “Why did Jesus find it necessary to specifically tell Peter?”

- Whatever the disciples' responses were, they were nothing compared to the responses Peter had for himself
  - Jesus understood and refused to leave Peter on the trash heap of life
  - O what beautiful statement, “Don’t forget Peter”
  - Vs. 7, “Go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”

Here was my first question, “Why did Jesus find it necessary to specifically tell Peter?”

- Peter is going to see Jesus again
  - I wonder if this was a hallelujah moment or and “O my” one for him
  - “Just as he told you”
  - Remember His words to you Peter
  - You may have acted like a Simon, but you are still Peter in Jesus’ eyes

My second question, “What did Peter do with this information”?

- Peter has a choice to make
  - He could say, “It is too hard, embarrassing, crippling”
  - He could begin to see himself as a victim and just give up
    - “Why did Jesus have to give Satan permission to treat me like this?”
    - “This is just the way God made me”
    - Where were you God when I needed you”

My second question, “What did Peter do with this information”?

- We find Peter returned to be with the other disciples
  - So often our first response is to stop
    - Stop attending Church and Sunday School
    - Stop reading Scripture, Spending personal time with Jesus
    - Stop letting God and His Word define us
    - Stop looking forward through the promises of God

My second question, “What did Peter do with this information”?

- We find Peter obeying Jesus and waiting with the other disciples
- John 20:1-2 NIV, 1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. 2 So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”
  - Notice Mary ran to Simon Peter and John
  - They both ran to the tomb

My third question, "What does this tell me this morning?

- There is a way back, but it is always through repentance
  - Luke 22:62, "And he went outside and wept bitterly."
    - Repentance - a deep change of heart and mind that causes a person to turn away from sin and turn toward God
    - Not just being sorry you got caught or the consequences
    - This verse implies a sorrow that cuts him like a sharp point leading to brokenness
  - Psalm 34:18 NIV, "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

My third question, "What does this tell me this morning?

- John Mark
  - Acts 13:13 NIV, "From Paphos, Paul and his companions sailed to Perga in Pamphylia, where John left them to return to Jerusalem."

My third question, “What does this tell me this morning?

- John Mark
  - Acts 15:36-39a NIV, 36 Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.” 37 Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, 38 but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. 39 They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company.

My third question, "What does this tell me this morning?

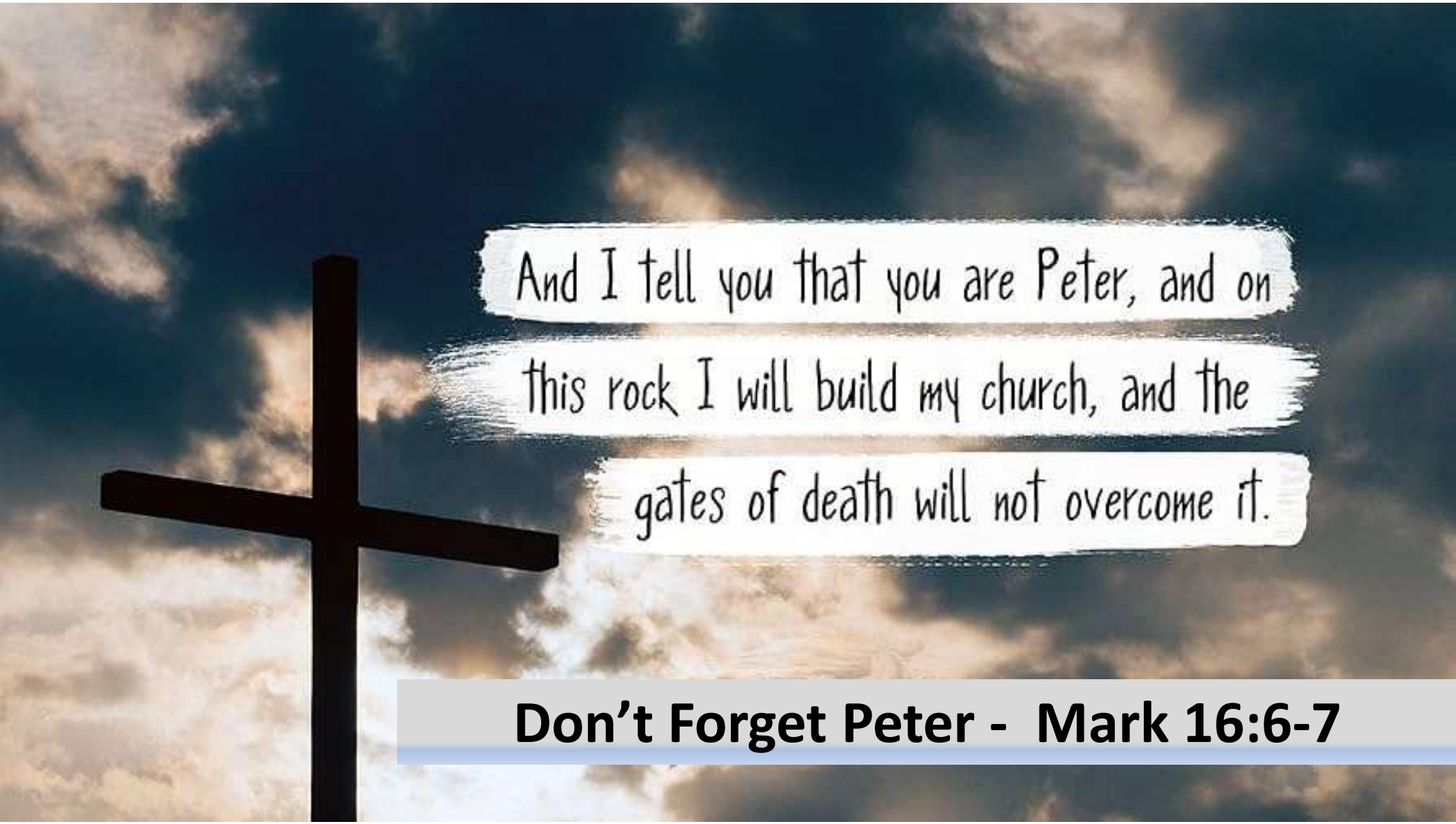
- John Mark
  - 2nd Timothy 4:11 NIV, "Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry."
  - Psalm 103:10-12 NIV, 10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Don’t Forget Peter

- Peter’s main issue was he did not listen to the entirety of Jesus’ words and promises
  - Jesus told them He was going to Jerusalem to die, be buried, and then rise again
    - And Peter said, “No way”
  - Jesus told Peter he would be sifted by Satan like wheat
    - Peter said, “Bring it on”
  - Jesus told Peter that he would be restored
    - But he did not hear it through his raging pride

Don’t Forget Peter

- Failing and falling short does not have to be final when met with honest repentance and Christ’s grace
- Jesus didn’t forget Peter and He promises He will never forget you
- We must never forget those who are struggling with their own enslavements



Don’t Forget Peter - Mark 16:6-7