

Mark 14 : 66 – 72

Peter disowns Jesus

BIBLE STUDY



INTRODUCTION

Starter:

Think of a time when you got caught doing something you said you wouldn't do, or let someone down badly. How did you feel?

Pray to start:

The story of Peter's failure and subsequent forgiveness is a beautiful example of God's grace. Ask him to remind us today that his grace is an endless supply to help restore and encourage us in our walk with him.

This passage takes place just after Judas comes with a crowd of people to arrest Jesus. Only a few hours earlier, Peter had sworn his loyalty to Jesus and had vowed never to leave him. Now he is about to face a crisis situation.

Mark 14 : 66 – 72

Peter disowns Jesus

BIBLE STUDY



Let's unpack the passage.....

Read: Mark 14: 27-31

1. What predictions does Jesus make in this passage about the future? (vv 27, 28, 30). How does Peter disagree with Jesus? And which prediction does he focus on? (vv 29, 31)

Now read: Mark 14: 66-72

2. Despite the threatening crowd and the scene in the garden, Peter follows Jesus to the courtyard at a distance (Luke 22 v 54). What does this say about his character?
3. Imagine you were sitting by the fire in the courtyard watching this scene. What do you think the atmosphere felt like in the courtyard?
4. What prompted Peter's denials? What did he fear?
5. Peter had cut off the servant's ear just hours before this. What has changed since then?
6. What did Peter deny (v. 68; v.70; v.71)? What did he have to lose if he was identified with Jesus?
7. Once Peter recognises what he has done, what is significant about his response – what does it tell us? (v. 72)

Mark 14 : 66 – 72

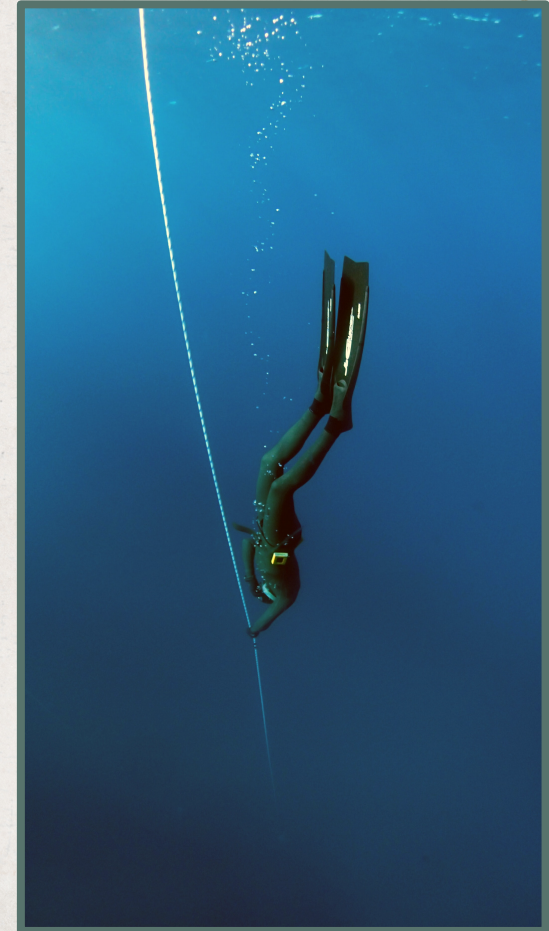
Peter disowns Jesus

GOING DEEPER

How and when are you tempted to avoid being identified with Jesus?
What is it you fear? What do you have to lose?

Peter was one of the leaders of the group of apostles, yet he failed Jesus. What role is there for accountability in our ability to remain loyal to Jesus? Can you think of other lessons that we can learn from the story of Peter?

What do we learn about Jesus' suffering from today's story as one of his close friends turns away?



Mark 14 : 66 – 72

Peter disowns Jesus

PRAY

As we look at Peter and his denial of Jesus, we often see ourselves reflected. We have all let Jesus down – we have all vowed to stay strong and then weakened under pressure.

Pause in quietness and imagine yourself sitting with Jesus.

As your eyes meet his, thank him that you do not see judgment there, but that you see love and acceptance, as he reaches out his hand to you.



Some questions inspired by:

<https://intervarsity.org/bible-studies/luke-22>