

## A Real Man

- Simon Peter was the most prominent of the 12 apostles!
  - He was the apostle primarily responsible for evangelizing the Jews (Gal 2:7-8)
  - He was bold and impulsive (Matt. 26:33)
  - After news of Jesus' resurrection, Peter was one of the first to run to the tomb to see if it was true (John 20:3-6)
  - Following the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13), Peter quickly emerged as the primary spokesman for the early Christians.
  - He played a critical role in the spread of the gospel in Judea, boldly preaching to the crowds (Acts 2:14-41; 3:12-26; 5:21, 42); healing people (Acts 3:1-11; 5:12-16), and even under arrest, he spoke fearlessly to the authorities (Acts 4:1-20, 5:26-32).
  - Twice he miraculously escaped from prison (Acts 5:18-25; 12:6-11)
  - Peter was the first of the apostles to confess his belief in Jesus as the Messiah (Matt 16:15-16, Mark 8:29).
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- Peter first met Christ at Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John the Baptist exercised his ministry.
  - Peter made the great confession of Christ's deity which became the foundation of the Church, and was appointed the one to keep the "keys" of the Kingdom—(Matthew 16:17-19)
  - Peter miserably failed Christ in an hour of crisis, being the only disciple to deny Christ, yet he was restored and recommissioned by Jesus after His resurrection.

## A Real Failure

"(v.31) 'Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. (v.32) But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, which your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers.'  
(v.33) Peter said, 'Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you, and even to die with you.' (v.34) But Jesus said, 'Peter, let me tell you something. Before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will deny three times that you even know me.'

Luke 22:31-34

## The Truth is:

When we encounter an individual who is altogether open, an individual who lets it all hang out, when we meet that kind of person we generally find them delightful!

## The Trial into darkness begins in a garden. (Luke 22:39)

"Then, accompanied by the disciples, Jesus left the upstairs room and went as usual to the Mount of Olives."

Peter followed at a distance! (v.54)

## That fact lead him into danger and temptation!

"(v.54) So they arrested him and led him to the high priest's home. And Peter followed at a distance. (v.55) The guards lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat around it, and Peter joined them there. (v.56) A servant girl noticed him in the firelight and began staring at him. Finally she said, 'This man was one of Jesus' followers!' (v.57) But Peter denied it. 'Woman,' he said, 'I don't even know him!' (v.58) After a while someone else looked at him and said, 'You must be one of them!' 'No, man, I'm not!' Peter retorted. (v.59) About an hour later someone else insisted, 'This must be one of them, because he is a Galilean, too.' (v.60) But Peter said, 'Man, I don't know what you are talking about.' And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. (v.61) At that moment the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Suddenly, the Lord's words flashed through Peter's mind: 'Before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will deny three times that you even know me.' (v.62) And Peter left the courtyard, weeping bitterly."

Luke 22:54-62

New Living Translation

## His disguise of silence is Penetrated.

The servant girl  
The soldier  
Peter's hot denial  
Silence  
Jesus' Look

## We follow Peter into the dawn!

Jesus' words of healing . . . . "I have prayed for you" (v.32a)

"when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers.!" (v.32b)