

## Questions

1. Review how we see Jesus' sustaining, convicting, forgiving, and restoring grace in this story.
2. Regarding Satan, where do you fall on the spectrum of either minimizing or magnifying his reality? Is Satan seemingly absent or hiding around every corner?
3. Why is it good news for God's people that "Like a dog on a leash, the only wiggle room Satan gets is what God permits"?
4. Read Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1. What good news do we learn from these passages about Jesus' faith-sustaining and intercessory prayers on behalf of his brothers and sisters?
5. Read 1 John 1:5-10. How does this speak to God's convicting grace bringing us into the light?
6. Peter weeping bitterly was the beginning evidence that he was experiencing conviction over his sin. Read 2 Cor. 7:10, what more do we learn about this?
7. Discuss the amazement of, "your sin cannot outpace God's grace towards you."

Need prayer? Someone will be up front by the piano to pray with you after the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> services.

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## JESUS, FRIEND OF SINNERS

*Encounters with Jesus in the Gospels*

### The Faithful Friend To Fickle Sinners

**Luke 22:31-34; 54-62; John 21:15-19**

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**October 13, 2024**

In this story we learn that our assurance and confidence to make it to the end in faith is not found in us but in the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **Luke 22:31-34**

Satan is real and powerful, but Satan is subordinate to God. Satan is powerful, but it's permissible power.

What does it mean, Satan wants to sift them like wheat? Metaphorically, Satan wants to violently shake them, so that those who are truly faithless will fall through the sieve of his trials and temptations. Satan's sieve doesn't produce faithlessness, rather it reveals if faith is not true, not genuine.



Jesus—the God-Man—purposed his prayer to produce persevering faith in Peter. And what Jesus prays for, happens. It's not "if" but "when you have turned back..."

In Luke 22:31-34, we see the promise of Jesus' sustaining grace.

#### **Luke 22:54-62**

The word "so" in "So Peter remembered..." speaks to result. Not because of the rooster's crow, but because of Jesus' gaze did Peter remember what Jesus said, and indeed, experiences conviction; he goes off weeping bitterly. If Jesus had not turned to Peter, Peter would not have turned back to Jesus.

In Luke 22:54-62, we see Jesus' convicting grace.

#### **John 21:15-19**

Jesus had already brought convicting grace to Peter. And convicting grace had its intended effect, Peter wept bitterly over his sin. And now Jesus goes to Peter and brings forgiving and restorative grace to him. Three times Peter denied Jesus and so three times Jesus gives Peter the chance to say to him, "I love you."

Your sin cannot outpace God's grace towards you.

In John 21:15-19, we see Jesus' forgiving and restorative grace.