

# **Peter's Restoration**

LENT 2026 – Part 5

March 22, 2026

*He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*  
**Philippians 1:6**

## **The Restoration Story Of Peter**

### **1. Peter's Denies Jesus**

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written:

*"I will strike the shepherd,  
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered."*

<sup>32</sup> But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

<sup>33</sup> Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

<sup>34</sup> "Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

<sup>35</sup> But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

**Matthew 26:31-35**

<sup>40</sup> Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. <sup>41</sup> "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

**Matthew 26:40-41**

<sup>53</sup> They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders and the teachers of the law came together. <sup>54</sup> Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire.

**Mark 14:53-54**

<sup>66</sup> While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. <sup>67</sup> When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him.

"You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus," she said.

<sup>68</sup> But he denied it.

"I don't know or understand what you're talking about," he said, and went out into the entryway.

<sup>69</sup> When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, "This fellow is one of them." <sup>70</sup> Again he denied it.

After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, "Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean."

<sup>71</sup> He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know this man you're talking about."

<sup>72</sup> Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times." And he broke down and wept.

### **Mark 14:66-72**

<sup>58</sup> A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."

"Man, I am not!" Peter replied.

<sup>59</sup> About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean."

<sup>60</sup> Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed.

<sup>61</sup> 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." <sup>62</sup> And he went outside and wept bitterly.

### **Luke 22:58-62**

## **2. Peter's Restoration**

<sup>1</sup>Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: <sup>2</sup> Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. <sup>3</sup>"I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?"

"No," they answered.

<sup>6</sup> He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

<sup>7</sup> Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. <sup>8</sup> The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. <sup>9</sup> When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

*15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"*

*"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."*

*Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."*

*16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"*

*He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."*

*Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."*

*17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"*

*Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."*

*Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."*

*18 Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." 19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"*

**John 21:1-19**

## **Small Group Discussion Questions for the Week of March 22, 2026.**

### **Opening**

1. From your perspective, what has been the most memorable moment in this Small Group session?

### **Digging Deeper into the Scriptures**

Read Mark 14:66-72

1. Do Peter's responses escalate in intensity across the three denials? If yes, how?
2. What was significant about Peter's reaction when the rooster crowed (v. 72)? How did this moment break his pride?

Read John 21:1-19

3. Why do you think the disciples, specifically Peter, returned to fishing after previously seeing the resurrected Jesus?
4. What is the significance of Jesus preparing breakfast for them? What does it suggest about his desire for intimacy and connection?
5. How does Jesus transition Peter from a past failure ("do you love me?") to a future mission ("follow me")?

### **Applying the Scriptures**

1. When have you felt that your failures made you unfit to serve God? How does this story offer comfort?
2. How does Jesus' restoration of Peter influence your understanding of grace and second chances?