

A MAN CALLED PETER
JOHN 21:15-19 / 6-2-19 / PM

I. FIRST, LET'S CONSIDER PETER'S LIFE.

- A. Name: The "Rock" given to him by Jesus when he was first called as a disciple (John 1:42).
- B. Family:
 - 1. His father was Jonah sometimes referred to as John (John 21:15).
 - 2. His brother was Andrew, who introduced Peter to Jesus—John 1:40-41.
- C. Occupation: Professional fisherman—Matt. 4:19.
- D. Education: Little formal education (Acts 4:13).
- E. He was originally from Bethsaida, but later moved to Capernaum.
- F. Family: He was married—Matt. 8:14 and I Corinthians 9:5.
- G. Place in the Twelve: Leader, Spokesman and part of Jesus' inner circle of Peter, James and John.
- H. Important events:
 - 1. Calling as a disciple (Matt 4).
 - 2. Walking on water (Matt 14).
 - 3. Witnessed the Transfiguration (Matt. 17).
 - 4. Instrumental in establishing the Church (Matt 16).
 - 5. Denied Jesus (John 18).
 - 6. Affirmed Jesus three times—John 21:15-17.
 - 7. Preached at Pentecost and 3,000 saved (Acts 2).
 - 8. Stood up to Jewish religious leaders--Acts 4:18-20.
 - 9. First to share the gospel with gentiles (Acts 10-11)—Acts 11:18.
 - 10. Healed two lame men (Acts 3 & Acts 9).
 - 11. Raised Dorcas from the dead (Acts 9).

II. NOW LET'S LOOK AT PETER'S LESSONS.

A. First, let's consider his weaknesses.

1. Spoke before he thought.
2. Inconsistent at first in his faith.
3. Fearful of others.
4. Defensive—Matt 26:35.

B. Peter's strengths.

1. Committed to Jesus—Mark 10:28.
2. Put God first—Acts 5:29.
3. Enthusiastic—ran to the empty tomb (John 20).
4. Repentant after he failed (John 21).
5. Persevered in his faith (crucified upside down in Rome)—John 21:18-19.

C. Lessons from Peter.

1. Think before we speak.
2. Put God in first place in your life.
3. Everyone makes mistakes.
4. God gives second chances.
5. Don't give up—Phil 3:12-14.
6. Take a stand for Jesus even if it hurts—Acts 4:40-42.