

The Promise

Simon was from Bethsaida but lived in Capernaum with his brother Andrew. They were in the fishing business. He and Andrew owned a home together. Simon-Peter was married, and his mother-in-law lived with him and his family. The gospel writers show Peter often did the opposite of what he should have been doing. He wasn't necessarily a contrarian but just didn't think through what he was going to say or do before he said or did it! He talked when he should have been quiet, slept when he should have been awake. He made a tremendous pronouncement about the identity of Jesus, but also made a statement that caused Jesus to say, "Get behind me Satan." Despite all this, He was the one who was closest to Jesus and was the obvious leader of the group under Jesus.

There is a well known saying, "God uses cracked pots." This is true for he has no other options.

What does renaming Peter us about people how God sees them? John 1:42

Walking on Water Matthew 14:22-33

What are some things we learn from this passage?

That which terrifies you may in fact be your _____ . Verse 27

The presence of God when acknowledged and welcome impart courage- not _____ .

Peter showed his faith in Jesus' power, yet he learned a valuable lesson. Keep you eyes on Jesus. Wonderfully even in his failure, Jesus was faithful.

His Great Confession Matthew 16:13

Without blinking an eye- Peter speaks what would have been viewed as heresy among the Jewish teachers. As a result, Jesus speaks promises to Peter.

"On this rock I will build my church." – The rock is not Peter. The name Peter means "little stone" the rock is either Jesus himself, the confession or a combination of both.

"He would receive the keys of the kingdom" – Because of this bold statement of faith, Peter was instrumental in opening the door of the gospel to all three groups of people on earth. The Jews (Acts 2:14-41). The Samaritans (Acts 8:14-17) and the Gentiles. (Acts 10:9-48).

The Transfiguration Luke 9:28-36

Peter, the one who seemed to never be comfortable in silence speaks. What did the Father's statement make clear to Peter and the others?

We should heed the words of Ecclesiastes 5:1-2

The Question on Forgiveness Matthew 18:21-21

The going rate in Judaism was that forgiving someone three times was generous. Peter would have sounded generous. Jesus' point is that one should not keep track. After all love keeps "no record of wrongs". (1 Corinthians 13:5).

To not forgive is a serious issue in the eyes of God. The unforgiving person ends up in their own personally made prison. It is a torturous way to live.

Is there something for which God is calling you to forgive? _____

The Foot Washing John 13:3-15

Why would Peter refuse Jesus to wash his feet?

What did Jesus mean by His statements in verses 8-10?

The Denial and Restoration Mark 14:17-21, 66-72; John 21:15-19

Peter, struggling with his own will, his own overconfidence, his at times arrogant attitude distinguishes himself in failure. This entire situation was required training for Him, prescribed by God himself.

He had to be brought to the end of himself before he could be used of God in the manner he was being called to serve. A place of humility and usefulness.

AW Tozer: "It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until he has hurt him deeply." God actually rises up storms of conflict in relationships at times in order to accomplish that deeper work in our character...This is graduate-level grace. Are you willing to enter this school? Are you willing to take the test? If you pass, you can expect to be elevated to a new level in the Kingdom. For He brings us through these tests as preparation for greater use in the Kingdom. You must pass the test first."

Humility is the path that must be followed. James 4:6-10

Future Challenges- Simon Peter a new man.

The Peter of the gospels is a different man than the one we read of throughout the first half of the book of Acts and the epistles that bear his name. Humility and righteousness shine through. Jesus sent him through a process to mold him into a useful vessel, yet he had to respond.

We need to follow in His steps and be willing to change so that we might be more and more useful to Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:20-21

The primary resource for this study is.

"The Twelve" by Leslie B. Flynn: Victor Books, Wheaton Illinois. 1982