August 9, 2015 Luke 22:54-62

FAILURE IS NOT FINAL

I. Introduction:

Failure Is Not Final!

II. Profile of Peter.

- B. Peter was a _____
- C. Peter was a man of _____
- D. Peter had an _____

III. Peter's Denial.

⁵⁴ Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance." Luke 22:54

⁶¹ 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." ⁶² And he went outside and wept bitterly.

IV. Peter's Triumph

¹⁸ Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.
¹⁹ But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges!
²⁰ As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." Acts 4:18-20

⁶ "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee." Mark 16:6-7

V. Conclusion and Application:

POINTS TO PONDER Luke 22:54-62

<u>Open It</u>

- 1. How does peer pressure affect our decisions?
- 2. *In what circumstances have you felt pressured into going along with the opinions of your friends?
- 3. When do you feel uncomfortable succumbing to group pressure?

Explore It

- 4. Where did the events of this story take place? (22:54)
- 5. What had happened to Jesus? (22:54)
- *For what reason did Peter follow Jesus "at a distance"? (<u>22:54</u>)
- *What do the actions of Peter in this story reveal about his personal character? (<u>22:54-62</u>)
- 8. Of what did the servant girl accuse Peter? (22:56)
- 9. How did Peter respond to the servant girl? (22:57)
- 10. How many times was Peter accused of knowing Jesus? (22:56-59)
- 11. How did Peter respond to the second and third accusations put to him? (22:58-60)
- Why did the third person suspect Peter was a follower of Jesus? (<u>22:59</u>)
- What happened when Peter denied Jesus the third time? (<u>22:60-61</u>)
- 14. What caused Peter to remember Jesus' earlier prediction? (22:60-61)
- 15. What did Jesus do the third time Peter denied knowing Him? (22:61)
- *Why was Peter so upset and bitter about his actions? (22:61-62)
- 17. How did Peter respond to the realization that he had denied his Lord? (22:62)

<u>Get It</u>

- 18. What would make Peter deny that he knew Jesus, when earlier he said he was willing to die for Him?
- 19. *When have you ever done something because of peer pressure, then later regretted it?
- 20. In what circumstances are other people able to influence us to act in ways we know we should not?
- 21. How was Peter's denial of Christ different from Judas's betrayal of Jesus?
- 22. *What can we do to stand against the pressure of others to do things we know are wrong?
- 23. How should we respond when we fail to obey Christ?
- 24. What can we learn about repentance from Peter's example in this story?
- 25. How would you define true repentance?
- 26. What methods does God use to make us aware of ways we need to change?
- 27. In what ways has the Lord made you aware of a sin in your life?
- 28. How should we respond to the convicting voice of God?

Apply It

- 29. *What could you do this week to strengthen your stand for Christ in the face of pressure from others?
- 30. In the future, how could you encourage another believer who has done something wrong but shows a willingness to repent?