

The Life of the Apostle Peter – Before the Lord's Crucifixion

Conversion (John 1:35-42)

1. V37, 40: Two disciples of John the Baptist - Andrew & John (?)
 - a. John Baptist introduces them to the Lord (**Behold the Lamb!**)
2. "Quiet" Andrew brought "Not-so-Quiet" Peter to Jesus. V39 "Come and See"
 - a. Andrew's words are few, but that is not the full measure of his work.
 - b. Similar to Samaritan woman John 4:29 "Come, see a Man..."
3. Jesus changes Simon's name to Cephas (Peter, A Stone)
 - a. Indicates who is over who. We are His subjects for His purposes! (i.e. You are Mine)
4. What about me:
 - a. Am I saved? Do I belong to Him?
 - b. Can I tell someone "Come and see"?
 - c. Do I tend to be quiet or not-quiet? Amazing blessed work is available for both!

Consecration (Luke 5:1-11)

1. Jesus finds Peter this time... who was back to his fishing profession with partners.
2. Jesus uses Peter's boat (e.g. profession) as means to teach others
3. V5 Peter knew fishing... and recognized futility... but willing to act on Jesus word anyway.
4. V8 I am a sinful man, O Lord – Saved, but sinful. Self-judged.
5. Peter's obedience, led to blessing for many.
6. Peter becomes more than saved... devoted, dedicated, set apart to God.
7. V11 they forsook all and followed Him
8. Matt 4:18 Calling by Jesus to "Follow Me". They left and followed Him.
9. What about me:
 - a. Do I allow the Lord to use us where we are?
 - b. Am I obedient to Him?
 - i. Even if I think it might be a "waste of time"?
 - c. Do I want to follow Him? Wherever He leads?

Companionship (Mark 1:28-37; 3:13-19)

1. V30 Peter's wife's mother was sick. His family is important to Peter. Told **Him** at once!
2. V31 Jesus cares about Peter's family too!
3. V31 When she is healed... she serves them!
4. Mark 3:13 Peter and others called by the Lord... to quiet time with Him... prep before preaching.
5. Mark 6:30-32 Come aside by **yourselves...** to a deserted place... and **rest... a while.**
 - a. V30 tell Him all things, what they had done and what they had taught
6. Luke 8:41-56 Peter witnesses the Lord's power over life (Jairus' daughter healed)
7. What about me:
 - a. Am I close to the Lord? Do I feign companionship with the Lord?
 - b. Do I pray for other's needs, or only my own?
 - c. Is Jesus welcome to spend time in my home?
 - d. Do we serve or wait to be served?
 - e. Do I heed God's call for quiet time with Him? Talk to Him? Listen to Him?

Walking on Water (Matt 14)

1. v12 John the Baptist beheaded... disciples buried him... and **went and told Jesus.**
 - a. Let's practice telling **Jesus** all our cares.
2. Fed 5000. Then v22, sent disciples away, v23 sent multitudes away. Goes to pray alone!
 - a. John 6:15 because people wanted Him as king.
 - b. Jesus goes to pray "Ever lives to make intercession for them" Heb 7:25

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3. V27+ Peter... drawn to Jesus...walks on water! Sinks, but he walked on water!
 - a. Amidst a storm, Peter is energetic and full of faith. Caution keeps you in the boat.
 - b. V33 all in the boat worshipped Him.
4. What about me:
 - a. Do I tell Jesus all. He know all, but He wants to hear it from me.
 - b. Am I drawn to Jesus, so that the storm fades becomes unseen?
 - c. Do I worship for all His gracious hand provides in my life?

Model Prayer (Matt 15:1-20)

1. Peter listened and heard... but did not understand
2. v15 "Explain this parable to us" (Good to ask men; better to ask God)
3. What about me:
 - a. Do I sincerely listen and hear the word of God?
 - b. Do I sincerely ask men or God to help me understand?
 - c. Do I want to learn more about Him... and myself?

Two-Fold Confession (John 6:23-71, Matt 16:13-28)

1. V66-68 "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life... You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
2. Matt 16:15-16 "You are the Christ"
3. What about me:
 - a. In the midst of defection, do I hide? Or do confess Him
 - b. Note: Book "In Six Days" - Lots of defection amid scientific "evidence"
 - i. Where do I stand? With the Lord or with false science?

Transfiguration (Matt 17:1-8)

1. Moses died and rose; Elijah was raptured.
2. Peter spoke... and was corrected.
 - a. Incorrectly equates the three (Lord, Moses, Elijah)
3. V8 Saw no one but Jesus only.
4. What about me:
 - a. Do I equate God with men of God?
 - b. We can honor & be thankful for men. Glory/worship belongs to God alone!
 - c. Do I "Hear Him" and "See Him" alone?

Feet Washing (John 13)

1. Peter observed Jesus wash other disciple's feet.
2. V6 "Lord, are you washing my feet?... v8 "You shall never wash my feet!"
3. V9 Peter – wash **all** of me
4. We all have a need for washing of water of the word.
5. Easier sometimes to serve... than to be served. We need to learn & appreciate both.
6. V10 Peter is clean (i.e. saved); Does not need to be "saved/bathed" again.
 - a. Needs to be washed by **The Word**, not cleansed (again) by the blood
 - b. Different words for wash.
 - c. Restoration is needed; Our walk can defile us.
7. What about me:
 - a. Have I been bathed?
 - b. Am I cleansed daily by His word?
 - c. Do I enjoy serving others for Him? Do I express thankfulness when I am served?

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Many Questions (Luke 12, Matt 18, 19, etc)

1. Responsibility Luke 12:41
2. Forgiveness Matt 18:21-22
3. Devotedness & Reward Matt 19:27
4. Prayer & Forgiveness (Fig tree) Mark 11:12-14, 21, 22
 - a. Peter... remembering... said... to Him.
5. Watching & Working Mark 13:1-4 (Asked privately)
6. Who would betray John 13:24
 - a. Very solemn occasion. Peter prods John to ask ☺
 - b. John was near the Lord.
 - c. John – disciple Jesus loved; Peter – I love you Lord John 21
 - i. Better to know Lord's love for us!
7. Where are you going? John 13:31-38
 - a. V36-38 No one can follow Jesus to where He was going
 - i. Peter- Why not... I will lay down my life for your sake
 - b. Jesus - You will deny Me three times.
8. What about me:
 - a. Do I have questions? Do I vocalize them to others... to Him?
 - i. We have **all** been blessed because of Peter's questions.
 - b. Do I ask for help? Too proud?
 - c. Do I encourage others to ask questions? Or try to embarrass them?
 - d. Do I listen to the answers? Even when I don't like the answers?

Sifted as Wheat - Denial (Luke 22:31-34, 57, 58, 60)

1. v32 Jesus – I have prayed for thee; faith not fail; returned to me; strengthen your brethren.
 - a. Likely recalled by Peter later
2. V33 Peter – **I am ready** to go with You, both to prison and to death (self-confidence)
3. V54 followed at a distance
4. V61 Jesus looked at Peter (Tender, changeless love; advocate). Look that both hurts/heals.
5. V62 Peter went out and wept bitterly. True repentance. Confess our sins.
 - a. Repentance – draws us **to** Him... not away.
6. What about me:
 - a. Is the cock crowing in my ears?
 - b. Do I walk softly, prayerfully, humbly, & near the Lord?
 - c. Like Peter, is my “strength(s)” also my “weakness”?

Additional Comments

1. How much we learn from Peter's questions, mistakes, actions.
 - a. Which draw out instruction, correction, reproof
2. Boldness; Uneducated and untrained men; They had been with Jesus Acts 4:13
3. Restoration to come... **After the Cross**.

Many more good notes available in this book: **Simon Peter – His Life and Letters** (by W.T.P. Wolston)