

Gospel of Matthew “The Denial of Peter”

Matthew 26.69-75

June 23, 2024

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69 Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant girl approached him and said, “You were with Jesus the Galilean too.”

70 But he denied it in front of everyone: “I don’t know what you’re talking about.”

71 When he had gone out to the gateway, another woman saw him and told those who were there, “This man was with Jesus the Nazarene!”

72 And again he denied it with an oath: “I don’t know the man!”

73 After a little while those standing there approached and said to Peter, “You really are one of them, since even your accent[q] gives you away.”

74 Then he started to curse and to swear with an oath, “I don’t know the man!” Immediately a rooster crowed, **75** and Peter remembered the words Jesus had spoken, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.

1. Intro
2. Main idea - Christ, always active and always in control, stands in the place of sinners
3. Peter’s Story
 1. Who he became
 1. Acts 4.5-12 - **5** The next day, their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem **6** with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and all the members of the high-priestly family. **7** After they had Peter and John stand before them, they began to question them: “By what power or in what name have you done this?” **8** Then Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders: **9** If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a disabled man, by what means he was healed, **10** let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified and whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing here before you healthy. **11** This Jesus is the stone rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone. **12** There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved.”
 2. Peter’s Denial
4. What about us
 1. We Are Proudful
 2. We Deny
 1. We don’t trust his words
 2. We are apathetic to him
 3. We do it our way
 4. We want it to be easier
5. Who is the Messiah
 1. He is the better Peter
 2. He is offering compassion - Luke 22.61 Then the Lord turned and looked at Peter.

6. Conclusion

1. 1 Peter 5.6-7 - **6** Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, **7** casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Grow Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you during our Sunday gathering?
- What encouragement does it give you knowing the depths of Peter's sin and the man/leader he would become?
- In what ways have you denied the work of Christ in your life?
 - Have you denied his words?
 - Have you denied his work?
 - Have you denied his power?
- What do you think Peter thought when Christ looked at him?
- What has repentance looked like in your life? Can you give an example of a sin you have repented of?
- What hope is there in knowing Christ did the work you could not?
 - He stepped forward when you could not.
- From your Grow Group time, what is an idea or two from your discussion that you can work to apply this week?