

## CHOSEN

### Message #6 "Keys to Avoiding a Spiritual Meltdown"

Matthew 26

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*When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" 14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. Matt 16:13-18*

*"After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them, for your accent gives you away." 74 Then he began to call down curses on himself and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. 75 Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly." Matt 26:73-75*

### **Peter's Downward Journey**

1. He overestimated his **own strength**. Matt 26:31-35

*"But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you."*

2. His relationship became **common**. Matt 26:37-41

*"Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. 41 "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. **The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.**"*

**"When That Which You Cherish Becomes Common Place...You  
Will Lose Your Passion."**

3. He was serving without **God's Guidance**. Matt 26:50-54

*"With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear."*

*"Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus)" John 18:10*

4. He followed Christ at **a distance**. Matt 26:57-58

*"Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. 58 But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. **He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.**"*

5. He warmed himself on **the enemies' fire**. vs 58, 69-70

*"But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome."*

*"Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. **There he sat with the guards & warmed himself at the fire.**" Mark 14:5*

### **Relational Challenges:**

1. Our relationship needs to be **intentional**.

2. Our relationship needs to be **personal**.

3. Our relationship need always to be marked by **humility**.

4. Failure needn't **be final**.

## Questions

1. One of the hardest things to do spiritually is be “Self-Aware” - if you were honest with yourself - Where would you rate your spiritual journey with Christ on a scale of 1-20?
2. As Pastor Phil discussed some of the “downward steps” - What area resonated with you? What do you believe the Lord may be identifying in your life?
3. All relationships need intentionality - What are some intentional/practical steps you need to take with the following?
  - Your Spouse - (significant other)
  - Children?
  - Parents? Family? Friends?
4. It’s always hard to acknowledge spiritual arrogance - but are there some areas that the Lord has challenged you?
5. Failure doesn’t have to be final. Our journey of restoration always begins with humility - What are some areas you need to ask the Lord specifically for forgiveness and ask for restoration?

Lord,

Even with our “stay at home” order, I still find that I have struggled being intentional with you. I’ve gotten into the habit of just doing it on my own, and I’m sorry. I want to acknowledge how deeply I need you. Please forgive me for ignoring you. One specific area I want to ask your forgiveness and new beginnings in is \_\_\_\_\_.

Lord, I ask your forgiveness and ask that you bring victory when there has been failure. And passion where I have become apathetic.

Thank you that this is mine in Jesus Christ. I love you, Amen.