

## The Twelve

### 1. Simon Peter

(Pt 1 Simon Peter in the Gospels)

**John 6:67-68** <sup>67</sup>Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?” <sup>68</sup>But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

\* What an incredible statement of faith in the face of a very tense/volatile crossroad in Disciples Life!

**Application** – Times in our lives when the rubber of our Christianity/True Belief in Jesus is tested!

\* We find out what we are really made of – Walk in Belief or we turn in Disbelief – True “Cross”-Road

**Matthew 16:15-18** <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

**Application** - There is a blessing that comes with speaking out the truth of Jesus Christ – When others don't!

\* Are – Simon Bar-Jonah...also...you are Peter (Gk - petros = stone)

\* Upon this rock (Gk – petra = Rock/Cliff/Ledge; Large stone) I will build my church!

**Matthew 16:21-23** <sup>21</sup>From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. <sup>22</sup>Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, “Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!” <sup>23</sup>But He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.”

\* This is immediately on the heels of one of the Highest of Highs -> Led to one of the Lowest of Lows!!!

\* Often occurs after a Conference – Men's, Women's, Youth, Marriage...

\* One of the most severe chastenings was for Contradicting the Word of God! Which from the beginning = Satan!

**Application** – If/When we find ourselves in contradiction to the Word of God – Change our position!!!

**Matthew 17:1-5** <sup>1</sup>Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; <sup>2</sup>and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup>And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”

\* Right on the heels of being rebuked by Jesus/Called Satan – 6 days later! – Chosen to go Mt. Top Experience!

\* See Jesus in transfigured (metamorphoo – permanent state to which a change takes place vs. transient)

\* See Moses & Elijah!

\* Get to hear God speak from Heaven!!!

\* Min-low – “While he was speaking...God interrupted him”

\* Mk 9:6 – because he didn't know what to say, they were afraid! Totally understandable!!!!

**Application** – Jesus desires to invite us, take us to High High to Ginosko (personally experience Him) Tak'em!

**Application** - There's a lesson for a lot of us! Sometimes better not to talk!

**Matthew 17:24-27** <sup>24</sup>When they had come to Capernaum, those who received the temple tax came to Peter and said, “Does your Teacher not pay the temple tax?” <sup>25</sup>He said, “Yes.” And when he had come into the house, Jesus anticipated him, saying, “What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth take customs or taxes, from their sons or from strangers?” <sup>26</sup>Peter said to Him, “From strangers.” Jesus said to him, “Then the sons are free. <sup>27</sup>Nevertheless, lest we offend them, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the fish that comes up first. And when you have opened its mouth, you will find a piece of money; take that and give it to them for Me and you.”

\* Jesus was teaching Peter a lesson in Pride! Notice He made Peter take the coin & give it to them!

\* Peter’s pride caused him to answer without asking!

**Application** – Don’t be too prideful, full of pride, when asked something regarding Jesus, if you don’t know, for sure, to say, “I don’t know, I will find out and get back to you”

**John 13:5-10** <sup>5</sup>After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. <sup>6</sup>Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, “Lord, are You washing my feet?” <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered and said to him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.” <sup>8</sup>Peter said to Him, “You shall never wash my feet!” Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.” <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.”

**Application** - Make no mistake about it...It is not knowing, associating or even serving Jesus that imparts a relationship with Him.

\* We must allow Him to wash us from our sins! **1 John 1:7** <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

**Matthew 26:31-35** <sup>31</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: ‘I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’” <sup>32</sup>But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.” <sup>33</sup>Peter answered and said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.” <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” <sup>35</sup>Peter said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” And so said all the disciples.

**Application** - Proverbs 16:18 <sup>18</sup>Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

\* Notice – So said ALL the disciples, but Peter is the only recorded/remembered for this. The cost of leadership

**Luke 22:31-34** <sup>31</sup>And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. <sup>32</sup>But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.” <sup>33</sup>But he said to Him, “Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death.” <sup>34</sup>Then He said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me.”

\* The cost of leadership – bigger target!

**Application** - **James 3:1** <sup>1</sup>My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

\* Jesus once again saw Him as Who he was & Who He would become!

\* Jesus prayed for him!

\* **Romans 8:34** <sup>34</sup>Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

**Mark 14:32-37** <sup>32</sup>Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” <sup>33</sup>And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. <sup>34</sup>Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch.” <sup>35</sup>He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. <sup>36</sup>And He said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.” <sup>37</sup>Then He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour?”

\* They all three were sleeping, but Jesus addresses only Peter. The cost of leadership.

**Application** – Jesus invited them to watch (stay awake) and pray with Him! Didn’t need them, Wanted them!

\* What will keep us from being part of winning with Jesus – He told them – Spirit is willing/the flesh is weak!

**John 18:10-11** <sup>10</sup>Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus. <sup>11</sup>So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?”

\* The Word (Jesus) came to save. He was trying to save. He could have “won” the battle. He wouldn’t saved!

**Application** - Eph 6:17 <sup>17</sup>And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

\* Question is how are we going to use it?! Bring life/death?

**Luke 22:54-62** <sup>54</sup>Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest’s house. But Peter followed at a distance. <sup>55</sup>Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. <sup>56</sup>And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, “This man was also with Him.” <sup>57</sup>But he denied Him, saying, “Woman, I do not know Him.” <sup>58</sup>And after a little while another saw him and said, “You also are of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not!” <sup>59</sup>Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, “Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean.” <sup>60</sup>But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are saying!” Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. <sup>61</sup>And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” <sup>62</sup>So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

\* This is obviously a Low here – Denial of Jesus 1, 2, 3 times! After he was warned by Jesus! After Denying!

\* Also a “Mini-High” – At least he followed!

**Application** - People have a tendency to always see/talk/remember our lows! But Jesus sees/remembers our highs too!

**Mark 16:6-7** <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you.”

\* After His Lowest of Lows – Like many of us, He departed the fellowship of the believers! (Luke 22:62)

\* But God sends an angel who sends these women to go get him!

**Application** - Hebrews 10:25 <sup>25</sup>not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

**John 21:3** <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We are going with you also.” They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing.

**Application** – The impact we have on others by what we say or do, For Jesus or contrary to Jesus is HUGE!!!

**John 21:15-19** <sup>15</sup>So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Feed My lambs.” <sup>16</sup>He said to him again a second time, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Tend My sheep.” <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?” Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Feed My sheep. <sup>18</sup>Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish.” <sup>19</sup>This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, “Follow Me.”

\* Special calling on his life!!! Even after soooooooooo many failures, Jesus built him up, called him, once again saw - Not the “I’m going fishing” Simon, Not the “I like you” Simon – But the I will live/die for you Peter!

**Application** – Does God still want to use You & Me after sooooooo many of our failures? Can He? Will He?

\* Par for the course – Simon Peter had some Simon left in him...What about him?!

### **Summary of Peter’s Life**

1. Life of High Highs and Low Lows – But Jesus saw Him as he was, and as he would become!
2. Sin of Commission vs. Sin of Omission – Rather have you do something wrong, than nothing at all!
3. Power of Repentance – The Lord wants us to live a blameless life, not a faultless life!
4. The Unseen Cost of Leadership – Our Leaders are not perfect! There is only One perfect!
5. Forgiven/Restored – Failures don’t have to be Final!!!