

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – Fall 2024 – FBC**

**The Life of Peter**

**Lesson #4 – “Intention versus Reality”**

**October 6, 2024**

**Texts:** John 13:1-11, 36-38 and Matthew 26:30-46

In today’s lesson we look at the final words and actions of Jesus before he is arrested. Perhaps more than he has to this point, Peter is really struggling to “get it right” with Jesus. Why does he seem to get it “wrong”? Or is he “wrong”? What is really in the heart of Peter?

1. John chapters 13-17 are unique in the gospels – no other gospel spends as much time in detailing what all went on just prior to Jesus’ arrest. The first 3 verses of John 13 are therefore very significant for they not only introduce what will happen around the Last Supper table but in a very tangible way demonstrate his love and His posture of service to His disciples. Write down all the “context/setting” statements in verses 1-3:

- 
- 
- 

2. Now write down the 6 or so statements that describe what Jesus did (vs 4-5):

- 
- 
- 

3. Examine the dialogue that follows, note the 3 statements of Peter and the 3 responses of Jesus (vs 6-10):

Peter:	Jesus:
(i)	(i)
(ii)	(ii)
(iii)	(iii)

**What is the purpose and meaning of this action/these actions and words of Jesus at this point in time?**

4. In Matthew 26:30-46 (very similar to Mark 14:26-32) we have two stories: Peter and the other disciples vowing never to “disown” Him and seemingly right after this “vow” we have story of them all going to Gethsemane.

(NOTE) In John’s Gospel, Peter’s vow to stay true to Jesus seems to occur earlier and just after Judas leaves the Upper room- there follow 4 long chapters of further words (and a long prayer)

of Jesus. So from John's account it seems as if the "vow" takes place long before they all go to the Gethsemane.

5. Break down the story in Matthew 26:30-35. What does the back and forth conversation accentuate? How clear does Peter make his intention?

6. In Matthew 26 verses 36-46 there are words that indicate the emotions and thoughts and feelings of Jesus: what are they? (Underline or Circle or colour) Highlight the words of Jesus. Then highlight the actions of Peter and the other two disciples.

7. Before we dig into the possible meaning of these stories, compare/contrast this story from the Garden with the story from last week, the Transfiguration:

Similarities:

Differences:

8. We have looked at two stories today: the story of the footwashing and the story that takes place in Gethsemane.

What can we say about Peter (and the other disciples)?

Was Peter wrong?

And what is he "missing"?

What is in his heart?

What is the response of Jesus in both stories?

**John 13:1-10 & 36-38**

<sup>1</sup>It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>2</sup>The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus.

<sup>3</sup>Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God;

<sup>4</sup>so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. <sup>5</sup>After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

<sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

<sup>8</sup>"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet"

<sup>9</sup>"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

What do verses 1-3 tells us that Jesus **knew** or **had done** or **had happened** prior to the action that follows?

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

**List the 6 deliberate actions Jesus takes:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

<sup>7</sup>Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

<sup>10</sup>Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you."

**Matthew 26:30-35**

<sup>30</sup>When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>33</sup>Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

<sup>35</sup>But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

**26:36-46**

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.'<sup>37</sup>He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated.<sup>38</sup>Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.'<sup>39</sup>And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.'

<sup>42</sup>Again he went away for the second time and prayed, 'My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.'

<sup>44</sup>So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

<sup>46</sup>Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

<sup>31</sup>Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, 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 risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

<sup>34</sup>"I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

<sup>40</sup>Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'So, could you not stay awake with me one hour?'<sup>41</sup>Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.'

<sup>43</sup>Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.

<sup>45</sup>Then he came to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?'