

## GROWTH GUIDE / October 8, 2017

If there's a person in the Bible that all of us can relate to, it's got to be Peter. Like most of us, he was eager to do the right thing and yet so often guilty of doing it the wrong way. It seemed that he was the guy who would speak first and think second, and so his mouth got him in trouble ... a lot! But if we learn one thing from the life and call of Peter, let's learn this: Jesus never once doubted the work of God in his life, and even when Peter denied Jesus, Jesus restored Peter. Truly, Peter's ministry was birthed out of his moment of greatest misery, and ours can be, too!

Questions to discuss:

1. What's the most exciting phone call, text or email you've ever gotten? Have you ever gotten news that made you respond immediately? What do you think it was about Jesus that made Peter (and the others) leave their nets "at once" to follow Him? Why do you follow Jesus?
2. What does it mean to follow Jesus as His disciple? What did a disciple's life look like then? What about now?
3. Read Luke 22:54-62. Have you ever done something that made you wish you could crawl in a hole and hide? What happened? How did you feel? Why do you think Peter wept bitterly?
4. Verse Luke 22:61 says that Jesus "looked straight at Peter." How would you have felt/ responded if you had been Peter and Jesus looked at you in your worst moment?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. So often we think of this as a salvation verse - the old becoming new - but how important is this truth in the everyday life of a disciple of Jesus. Peter was already following Jesus. How did Jesus make Peter new?
6. What's the biggest mess you've ever made? How did it feel when it was cleaned up? Read 1 John 1:9 and close out the group by thanking God for the miraculous work of Jesus on the cross that cleanses us from ALL sin!