

Cedrick Mgwaba

Follow-up questions

March 4, 2018

1. Cedrick shared the beginning of his story with us and how his early struggles continue to impact his walk with God today. We all have a story; we all have things that we struggle with. What are a few of the things in your past, or present, that impact your faith and faithfulness today?
2. Peter couldn't grasp the fact that he would *ever* deny Jesus, but Jesus knew that Peter's courage would fail. How do you see yourself in the story of Peter's denial of Jesus? What comfort or encouragement do you draw from the knowledge that, like Peter, Jesus knows you better than you know yourself?
3. In today's text, we see an emphasis on the need for prayer. Jesus prayed for Peter that his faith wouldn't fail (Luke 22:32). But Jesus also warned the disciples of their own need to pray so that they wouldn't give in to temptation (Luke 23:40). In what area of your life do you need Jesus and others to join you in praying so that you don't give in to temptation?
4. Jesus saw past Peter's failure to the plan that He had for his life, a plan in which Peter would strengthen others. No matter how badly we have sinned, Jesus invites us to repent and turn back to him. Is there something in your life that is getting in the way of God's plan for you, something that keeps you in hiding from God and others? Will today be the day that you accept God's invitation to repent and turn fully back to Him?
5. There is hurt, failure and hopelessness all around us. Peter could have succumbed to the same hopelessness as he wept bitterly over his failure. But through Jesus' tender love and restoration, Peter came to know the joy of being completely known, completely forgiven, and restored to a life of purpose. This is the hope of the Gospel! Is there someone in your life that God is calling you to strengthen, perhaps by sharing your own story of restoration?