**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_ \_ February 13, 2022**

**Peter’s Denial**

Mark 14:66-72

**Key Truth:** Despite our past sins and failures, Jesus loves us and wants to redeem and restore us to Himself.

**Peter’s Darkest Moment:**

1. Peter had no reason to be in the courtyard.

2. Peter tried to serve Jesus in his own strength.

3. Peter was afraid to be identified with Jesus.

 A. He denied being a disciple of Jesus out of fear for

 his safety.

4. Peter was broken over his failure and sin.

**What We Learn From Peter’s Denial:**

1. In Jesus Christ failure does not have to be final.

2. Forgiveness in Jesus doesn’t bring about shame but

 freedom.

 A. Freedom to share about your failures.

 1. It gives others hope.

 B. Freedom to share the goodness and mercy of

 Jesus.

3. In Christianity there is no cancel culture.

4. God’s grace and mercy is greater than your sin.

5. The church is a place of restoration, redemption,

 and forgiveness. **Mark 16:7**

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Don’t allow failure to keep you from coming to Jesus. Thank God for His unfailing love for you.

**Connection Group Homework**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Have you ever had a “falling out” with a close friend or family member? If you are willing to share your experience. How did you seek to restore the relationship?

Read Mark 14:22-31, 66-72: What do you know about the relationships between Peter and Jesus?

Why was denying Jesus unfathomable to Peter? Why might it be dangerous for us to think that we are incapable of doing so?

What emotions might Peter have felt in that moment when he realized Jesus’ prophecy came true?

Read John 21:15-19: Given Peter’s bold proclamation that he would die before denying Christ in Mark 14, how would you expect Jesus to confront him? How did Jesus interact with Peter in these verses? What does this tell us about Him?

What task did Jesus charge Peter with in these verses? Given Peter’s moral and spiritual failure, did Peter seem like a likely candidate for this charge? Why or why not? Based on what you know about Peter, how did he handle this charge? (See Acts 4:1-12)

Read 1 Timothy 1:12-15: What are some tangible ways we might express the redeeming, reconciling, and gracious love of Christ to the people around us?