

GROWING IN THE LORD

2 Peter 3:18

Joe Lovato, Youth Minister

Main Thought: From three experiences in the life of Peter, we learn valuable lessons about how we grow in our relationship with Jesus.

1. FIRST EXPERIENCE: Jesus expects _____ from Peter. (Luke 5:1-11)

1) We don't always _____ what Jesus asks of us. (vv 4-5)

2) What happened when Peter was _____? (vv 5-11)

(1) Our _____ is something God uses to display His _____. When we witness God's _____, we realize His holiness and our _____. (vv 5-9)

(2) Our confessed _____ and our _____ allows us to fellowship with Jesus. (vv 10-11)

2. SECOND EXPERIENCE: Peter takes his _____ off of Jesus. (Matt. 14:22-33)

1) Our _____ in Jesus needs to be our focus. (v 26)

2) We should call out to Jesus as _____. (v 30)

(1) Jesus responds _____ when we call to him to be saved. (v 31)

(2) What is _____ our focus?

3. THIRD EXPERIENCE: Peter _____ and Jesus _____ Peter.

1) God knows all our _____. (Matt. 26:31-35; Luke 22:54-62)

2) Jesus is the _____ of our faith. (Jn. 21:1-19)

(1) Jesus _____ our faith.

(2) Jesus _____ us in our faith.

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Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

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