

Meeting Jesus in Hard Places:
Five Post Resurrection Reflections

Meeting Jesus in Our Failure
John 21:1-19

FAILURE

What thoughts does the word failure bring to mind for you?

What memories does it call to mind?

What emotions are you feeling right now?

What would you consider to be the most significant failure in your life?

How did you deal with it?

What impact has that experience had on you?

**One of the most significant
and impactful ways we
will experience Jesus is
when we meet him in our
failure.**

31 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.**32** But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.” **33** Peter replied, “Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.” **34** “Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” **35** But Peter declared, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” And all the other disciples said the same.

Matthew 26:31-35

52 “Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. **53** Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? **54** But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?”

Matthew 26:52-54

“Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, “This man was with him.” But he denied it. “Woman, I don’t know him,” he said.

A little later someone else saw him and said, “You also are one of them.” “Man, I am not!” Peter replied. About an hour later another asserted, “Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean.” Peter replied, “Man, I don’t know what you’re talking about!” Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. *The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter.* Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.”

Luke 22:54-62

Jesus knew the kind of person Peter was before Peter betrayed Him and it did not change His affection for or devotion to Peter at all.

However - carrying shame with us can and will diminish our devotion and affection toward Jesus.

*And we know that in all things God works
for the good of those who love him, who
have been called according to his
purpose.*

Romans 8:28

Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance and let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

James 1:2-4

Sit with Jesus in the emotions and thoughts you have regarding significant failure:

- What do you want or need to say
- What do you sense him saying to you in response
- What do you hope he will say?
- What does Jesus' interaction with Peter here tell you about your own journey with Jesus?

**Transformation will happen when we
meet Jesus in The Hard Places in life.**

Grief

Fear

Doubt

Disillusionment

Failure

