

CHANGED LIVES

Lesson 6

PETER: “Who Peter WAS”

Mark 1:16-20

Matthew 14:28-30

Matthew 15:15, 16

Matthew 16:16, 22

Matthew 17:4

Matthew 19:27

Matthew 26:33-58 (Mark 14:67-71)

Matthew 26:69-75 .

John 6:68, 69

John 13:8, 9

John 18:10, 11, 18, 25-27

John 21:1-7

John 21:15-17

John 21:18-21

Did you notice:

Simon: means “hear or listen”

Peter: means “stone”

Peter’s Epistles were written from Rome between Early 65 A.D. and 70 A.D. This would be 35-40 years after the events of the Gospels, where we first meet and learn of Peter. They were written to help Christians deal with the persecutions that Rome was unleashing.

Mark 1:16-20 Peter is among the first chosen to follow. Strong, rugged fisherman, is quick to leave his business behind to follow Jesus.

Matthew 14:28-30 Peter was the “first” to rise up and want to try and walk on water. His boldness and courage are on display; as well as impulsive nature.

Matthew 15:15, 16 Peter speaks up asking for further teaching, only to have Jesus express disappointment that they are not able to see where the lesson leads.

Matthew 16:16, 22 In this passage, Peter again is the first to speak up. He confesses that Jesus is the Messiah. Jesus renames him, “Peter” meaning “stone” and says upon this “ROCK” (huge stone) Jesus would build His church. He makes it clear that Peter will be entrusted with the “keys” and will follow the authority in Heaven regarding what is allowed and prohibited.

Matthew 17:4 Peter is one of the “inner circle” and again is the one to take the initiative and suggest honoring those who are gathered.

Matthew 19:27 Peter is quick to volunteer that he (along with the others) deserve to be rewarded for their sacrifices and service.

Matthew 26:33-58 (Mark 14:67-71 Peter again shows an impulsive and proud response to Jesus’ statement about their denial. Jesus foretells how quickly Peter would fail. In the garden, the “inner circle” are encouraged to watch and pray, and Peter fails here as well.

Matthew 26:69-75 Peter’s three denials are recorded by Matthew.

John 6:68, 69 Many are deserting Jesus because they fail to understand His teachings. Peter is quick to speak up and testify that he will not cease to follow because Peter knows that Jesus has the words of eternal life.

John 13:8, 9 Peter is quick to refuse to allow Jesus to wash his feet. Then implores for extra special treatment.

John 18:10, 11, 18, 25-27 Peter is quick to come to Jesus’ aid in the garden and strikes the servant of the High Priest. Almost all of the other disciples have deserted, but Peter remains “at a distance”.

John 21:1-7 Jesus appears, and Peter is quick to leave his boat and swim to shore where Jesus is.

John 21:15-17 Jesus confronts Peter about the depth of love that Peter has for Him. Peter is no longer bold enough to suggest that he loves Jesus as much as Jesus desires. He is hurt when Jesus then questions if Peter even loves him as much as Peter is suggesting.

John 21:18-21 Jesus contrasts Peter's behavior in his youth, with what Peter will be as he gets older. Peter then wants to know what John is going to have to face in comparison, but Jesus refuses to answer clearly.

What Lessons can you learn for your personal walk with Jesus?