

God Allows U-Turns

April 3 & 4, 2010

1. People take wrong turns.

We are prone to wander.

• _____ made a terrible mistake.

Luke 22:54-62 Seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. But when they 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.

•We, also, take missteps and end up way _____.

Fortunately...

2. God allows U-turns.

He's the God of second chances.

•Peter was challenged to live life _____.

Jn 21:15-17 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

•We, also, are _____ into the family of God.

What will you experience if you come back? You can expect to see the Dayspring "health plan" in action. It's as simple as ABC.

A _____ all activities toward the goal.

B _____ that God is alive and active.

C _____ to take the next step toward Christ.

Questions for Personal Reflection And Group Discussion

1. When you hear the phrase, "God allows U-turns," what comes to your mind?
2. We can take wrong turns in any area of our lives: the mismanagement of our money, not backing up our computers, or forgetting to water the garden. How is making a spiritual mistake potentially worse than any financial or physical mistake?
3. Peter's denials took place in the courtyard of Caiaphas. All four gospel accounts record this with each providing additional details. You can fill in some blanks by reading Mt. 26:69-75; Mk. 14:66-72; Lk. 22:55-65; John 18:25-27.
4. Peter insisted that he would never fail. This wasn't his only mistake. He took his eyes off of his Lord when on the lake, he attempted to correct Jesus concerning the cross, and he fell asleep when he was needed. Take a look at what Jesus said to him in Luke 22:31,32. Describe this scene and consider how Peter would have felt at the time.
5. Peter had no way to imagine how God would use him. We have been studying a letter he wrote nearly 2,000 years after his time! How do you think God might use you?
6. Do you know someone who is lost and alone, or just plain wayward, like a sheep without a shepherd? Let's respond to the challenge Jesus gave to Peter and care for his lambs. Pray about who might need an invitation back into God's family. Ask the person on your mind to join you at church next week as we get back to our study of 1 Peter.
7. Larry presented a health plan for our church that is as simple as ABC. It is really a picture of what can be. What part can you have in actualizing this vision?
8. If you would like to be introduced to Jesus, who is alive and well, contact us in any way.

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•We, also, are invited back into the family of God.

What will you experience if you come back? You can expect to see the Dayspring "health plan" in action. It's as simple as ABC.

Align all activities toward the goal.

Believe that God is alive and active.

Commit to take the next step toward Christ.

