

How Do We Get Past Failure?

Small Group Study

Focus Verses: Mark 8:27-33, Matthew 16:16-18, Luke 22:31-34, 1 Peter 1:1 & 1:3, John 17:20

Opening discussion: If Jesus gave you a new name, what would you like it to be and why?

Discussion Questions:

1. If you were describing Jesus to a friend, who would you say He is? (Mark 8:27)
2. How would you explain to your friend why Jesus had to be killed and rise again? (Mark 8:28-31)
3. Why do we sometimes argue with or bargain with Jesus? (Mark 8:32)
4. Have you ever felt like Jesus would turn to you and say "Get behind me, Satan!" What kinds of things do people do that make them feel like Satan has a hold on them? (Mark 8:33)
5. What kinds of things have happened in your life which demonstrate Jesus' grace toward you? (Matthew 16:17)
6. On a scale of 1 (weak) to 10 (strong), how much can Jesus count on you to help build His church? What are some things we can do to be more of a rock for Jesus' church? (Matthew 16:18)
7. What types of things might happen when Satan is sifting a person? How can we stand firm against Satan? (Luke 22:31)
8. Since Jesus prayed for you, that your faith may not fail, what kinds of circumstances make your faith falter? Why does our faith falter? (Luke 22:32, John 17:20)
9. If you were presented the choice between denying Jesus or facing death like Peter, how do you think you'd react? How do you think Peter's ministry was affected going forward after Jesus granted Peter restoring grace? (Luke 22:33)
10. In what ways do we deny Jesus in today's society? (Luke 22:34)
11. What are some reasons you think God elected you to be His son or daughter? (1 Peter 1:1)
12. How does God's great mercy give us new birth and a living hope? (1 Peter 1:3)

For further growth: Look up the meaning of the word "advocate" and research Biblical references to our Advocate. Choose one or two unsaved friends to pray for, to encourage, and for which you can become an advocate.

Closing Prayer