

FOUND
FAITHFUL
...?













Mark 14:53-72

Responding faithfully under pressure

Mark 14:53-72

- Two Trials
- Fulfillment of Jesus' prophecy (14:27-31)
- Depiction of what discipleship looks like:

Mark 14:53-72 → What it means to deny yourself

Mark 15:1-39 → What it means to take up your cross



Mark 8:34-35

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: **“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.** ³⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

Responding faithfully under pressure

1. Beware your weakness

Peter's denial of Jesus was:

- **Unexpected**

***Never overestimate your ability,
or underestimate your humanity***



In Peter's own words...

- **“You [Jesus] are the Messiah!” (8:29)**
 - **“Rabbi, it is good for us to be here [at Jesus' Transfiguration]” (9:5)**
 - **“We have left everything to follow you!” (10:28)**
 - **“Even if all fall away, I will not.” (14:29)**
 - **“Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” (14:31)**
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- **“I don't know or understand what you're talking about.” (14:68)**
- **He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, “I don't know this man you're talking about.” (14:71)**

Responding faithfully under pressure

1. Beware your weakness

Peter's denial of Jesus was:

- **Unexpected**

- **Honest**

- 1. It points us to Jesus**
- 2. It models the honest walk of faith**
- 3. It encourages us to respond differently**
- 4. It is real history**



Responding faithfully under pressure

1. Beware your weakness

Peter's denial of Jesus was:

- **Unexpected**
- **Honest**

Be honest about shortcomings



Responding faithfully under pressure

1. Beware your weakness

Peter's denial of Jesus was:

- **Unexpected**
- **Honest**
- **Temporary** (cf. Mk 16:7; Jn 21:15-17; Rom 5:20)

Be restored to Jesus after failure



Responding faithfully under pressure

1. Beware your weakness

Peter's denial of Jesus was:

- **Unexpected**
- **Honest**
- **Temporary**
- **Completely Natural**



***Responding faithfully
under pressure***

1. Beware your weakness

Address your weakness

- Start small, start today
- What are your 2 laps?

Why?!



Responding faithfully under pressure


2. Fixate upon your Saviour

- **Jesus was innocent**
- **Jesus was in control**
- **Jesus was alone**
- **Jesus was faithful**



Romans 5:6-8

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



**Garner a greater love
by fixating on your Saviour
to respond faithfully under pressure**

Will you deny yourself and follow Jesus this week?