



Date: March 13, 2022

Mark 14:26-31 (ESV) *Jesus Foretells Peter's Denial*

²⁶ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷ And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'" ²⁸ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." ²⁹ Peter said to him, "Even though they all fall away, I will not." ³⁰ And Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." ³¹ But he said emphatically, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you." And they all said the same.

Mark 14:37-38 (ESV)

³⁷ And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour?" ³⁸ Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Mark 14:53-54 (ESV)

⁵³ And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. ⁵⁴ And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire.

Mark 14:66-72 (ESV) *Peter Denies Jesus*

⁶⁶ And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, ⁶⁷ and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." ⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. ⁶⁹ And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." ⁷⁰ But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." ⁷¹ But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man of whom you speak." ⁷² And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.



Connecting Teaching, Life-experience, and Growth

- How did what Jesus taught about spiritual warfare come to life in Peter's experience?
- How did Peter incorporate what he learned both from Jesus and by mistake into his ministry and teaching?

Luke 22:31-34 (ESV)

Jesus Foretells Peter's Denial

³¹ "Simon, Simon, behold, **Satan demanded** to have you,

that he might sift you like wheat, ³² but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail.

And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."

³³ Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." ³⁴ Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me."

Mark 14:38 (ESV)

³⁸ **Watch** and **pray**

that you may not enter into temptation.

The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

1 Peter 5:8 (ESV)

⁸ Be sober-minded; **be watchful.**

Your adversary **the devil** prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.



- What is something that you've observed in scripture, stumbled upon in experience, but learned enough to be able to share with others?
- Would you be willing to share that with your group now?
- What is one of your favorite "Peter stories"?
- How do you relate?
- What can you learn from Peter's experience?

Two Different Trials

- Jesus stands in the High Priest's house, receiving questions, accusations, and physical blows.
- Peter stands in the courtyard, receiving questions and accusations.
 - How does each one handle it?
 - What's the difference?
 - What did they do leading up to this moment?
 - How do you read their hearts at this moment?

It could have gone better for Peter. Consider the following:

- The court people accused Peter of being a follower of Christ and a Galilean. So early, when Jesus faced accusations, what did he do?
- How might that strategy have helped Peter in this situation?



Divine Orchestration

In this Gospel, Mark drew out some pretty uncanny incidents that demonstrated God's sovereign superintendence of events.

"Just AS HE SAID"

- 1.) Colt tied (Mark 11)
- 2.) Guy with a water bottle (Mark 14:13)
- 3.) Judas' betrayal (Mark 14:41) - "The Hour has come."
- 4.) See also Mark's use of "Immediately" below.ⁱ
- 5.) Prediction of the betrayal, torture, death, and resurrection
 - (Mark [8:31](#); [9:31](#); [10:34](#))
 - (Matthew 12:40; 16:21; 17:9, 23; 20:19; 26:32)

What natural phenomenon did God perfectly time for this incident?

Application

- "Jesus wielded profound command from the very beginning of the final journey to the Cross. The Master's mastery of his dark times gives us great hope during the darkneses which await us as a natural part of living."

¹ R. Kent Hughes, *Mark: Jesus, Servant and Savior*, vol. 2, Preaching the Word (Westchester, IL: Crossway Books, 1989), 154.

- "Far from being crushed in the gears of history, Jesus was turning its wheels just as he wished...A God who is in control when the foundations of his own earthly existence are crumbling is a God who can be trusted to sustain us when it appears our life is tumbling in."

R. Kent Hughes, *Mark: Jesus, Servant and Savior*, vol. 2, Preaching the Word (Westchester, IL: Crossway Books, 1989), 155.

Please take some time to pray over these things as a group.



IMMEDIATELY !

Mark began by using his favorite storytelling device, the phrase “and ***immediately.***”

He then moved rapidly through the sequence of events:

¹ Bruce B. Barton, *Mark*, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1994), 429.

Mk 1:10-

immediately he saw **the heavens** being **torn open** and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.

Mk 1:12-

The Spirit immediately **drove him out** into the wilderness.

Mk 1:18-

And immediately **they left their nets** and followed him.

Mk 1:42-And

immediately **the leprosy left him,** and he was made clean.

Mk 5:42-

And immediately **the girl got up...**

Mk 10:52-

And Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your faith has made you well.” And immediately **he recovered his sight**

Mk 14:72

-And immediately **the rooster crowed..**