

# Preparing a Fisherman for a “Harvest” “Snapshots” in the Life of Peter

## I. Peter’s *Calling*

Now as **Jesus** was walking by the **Sea of Galilee**, He saw **two brothers**, **Simon** who was called **Peter**, and **Andrew** his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were **fishermen**.

And **He** said to them, “**Follow Me**, and I will make you **fishers of men**.”  
**Immediately** they **left their nets** and **followed Him**.  
(Matt. 4:18-20)

## II. Peter’s “*Compulsive*” Character

- A. **Requesting** that **he too**, be allowed to **walk on water** (Matt. 14:28-32)
- B. **Rebuking** the **Lord** concerning **His** impending **death** (Matt. 16:22-23)
- C. **Refusing** to **allow his feet** to be **washed** (John 13:6-11)
- D. **Rashly cutting off** the **ear** of the **high priest’s servant** (Mark 14:47)

## III. Peter’s *Confession* of Faith

Now when **Jesus** came into the district of **Caesaria Philippi**,  
**He** was asking **His disciples**, “**Who** do **people** say that the **Son of Man** is?”

And they said, “Some say **John the Baptist**; and others **Elijah**;  
but still others, **Jeremiah**, or **one** of the **prophets**.”

**He** said to them, “But **who** do **you** say that **I am**?”

**Simon Peter** answered,  
“**You** are the **Messiah**, the **Son of the living God**.”

And **Jesus** said to **him**, “**Blessed** are you **Simon Barjona**,  
because **flesh** and **blood** did **not reveal this** to **you**,  
but **My Father** who is **in heaven**. I also say to you  
that you are **Peter** and upon **this rock** will I **build My church**...

I will give you the **keys** of the **kingdom of heaven**;...”  
(Matt. 16:13-19a)

#### IV. Peter's *Conceited Claim*

Then **Jesus** said to **them (His disciples)**,  
“**You** will all **fall away** because of **Me this night**, for it is **written**,

‘I WILL **STRIKE DOWN** THE **SHEPHERD**,  
AND THE **SHEEP** OF THE **FLOCK** WILL BE **SCATTERED**.’

But after **I have been raised**, I will go ahead of you to **Galilee**.”

But **Peter** said to **Him**, “Even though **all may fall away** because of **You**,  
I will **never fall away**.” **Jesus** said to **him**,  
“**Truly** I say to you that **this very night**,  
before a **rooster crows**, **you (Peter)** will **deny Me three times**.”

**Peter** said to **Him**, “Even if I have **to die** with **You**,  
I will **not deny You**.”

**All the disciples** said the **same thing** too.

(Matt. 26:31-35)

#### V. Peter's *Collapse* in Faith

Having **arrested Him (Jesus)**, they led **Him** away and brought **Him**  
to the house of the **high priest**; but **Peter** was **following** at a **distance**.

After they had kindled a **fire** in the middle of the courtyard  
and sat down together, **Peter** was sitting among them.  
And a **servant-girl**, seeing him as he sat in the firelight and looking  
intently at him, said, “**This man** was **with Him too**.”  
But he **denied it**, saying, “**Woman**, I do **not** know **Him**.”

A little later **another** saw him and said, “**You** are **one of them too!**”  
But **Peter** said, “**Man**, I am **not!**”

After about an hour had passed, **another man** began to insist, saying,  
“**Certainly this man** also was with Him, for he is a **Galilean too**.”

But **Peter** said, “**Man**, I do **not** know what you are talking about.”  
Immediately, while he was still speaking, a **rooster crowed**.

Then **the Lord** turned and **looked** at **Peter**.  
And **Peter remembered** the **word** of **the Lord**, how **He** had told him,  
“**Before a rooster crows today**, you will **deny Me three times**.”  
And he went out and wept bitterly.  
(Luke 22:54-62)

#### VI. Peter's *Charge* from the Lord

So when they had finished **breakfast**, **Jesus** said to **Simon Peter**,  
“**Simon, son of John**, do you **love Me** more than **these?**”

He (Peter) said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."  
He said to him, "Tend My lambs."

He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."  
He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep."

He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was *grieved* because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."  
Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep...."  
(John 21:15-17)

## VII. Peter's Climactic Shavuot Message

When the day of Pentecost (Shavuot) had come, they were all together in one place....

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

Now there were devout Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven...

But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words....

this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel:

'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says, 'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND;...'

"Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know---

this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.

But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power...."

This Jesus God raised up again, to which we all are witnesses...

Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Messiah---this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart,..

So then, **those** who had **received his word** were **baptized**:  
and that day were added about **three thousand souls**.  
(Acts 2:1, 4-5, 14, 16-17a, 22-24, 32, 36-37a, 41)

## Personal Application

### **Peter's Call to Service, *what* does it Teach us?**

1. **God calls and uses people** who are **willing to fully commit** themselves to **following Him**.

And **He (Jesus)** said to **them**, "**Follow Me**, and I will make you **fishers of men**." **Immediately** they **left** their **nets** and **followed Him**.  
(Matt. 4:19-20)

2. **God often uses people** who seemingly have **glaring weaknesses**

Note → **Peter's compulsive character** (Matt. 16:21-23, Mark 14:47)  
→ **Peter's conceited boast** (Matt. 26:31-35)  
→ **Peter's collapse in faith** (Luke 22:54-62)

3. **God uses people** that "**step out**" in **faith**

Note → **Peter "stepped out"** in **faith** and **walked on water** (Matt. 14:28-32)

→ **Peter's bold confession** of **Messiah**

**He (Jesus)** said to them, "But **who** do **you** say that **I am**?"  
**Simon Peter** answered,  
"**You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God**." (Matt. 16:15-16)

4. **God desires *leaders*** who will **genuinely care** for **His people**

**He** said to him again a **second time**, "**Simon, son of John**, do you **love Me**?" **He** said to **Him**,  
"**Yes, Lord; You know that I love You**."  
**He** said to **him**, "**Shepherd My sheep**." (John 21:16)

5. **God will *empower*** for **service** those whom **He calls** and **prepares**

**He (Jesus)** said to **them (His disciples)**..  
"but you will receive **power** when the **Holy Spirit** comes on **you**;  
and you will be **my witnesses** in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea**  
and **Samaria**, and to the **ends of the earth**." (Acts 1:7a, 8)