

5. Months later, after Jesus ascends into heaven and God's Spirit empowered the disciples, Peter gives a stirring speech in Jerusalem. Read **Acts 2:32-41**, which is the last part of Peter's speech. How does Peter's actions and tone compare to **Mark 14:71-72**?

Do you think that after Peter denied Jesus three times that he ever imagined Jesus would work through him this way?

What hope does this give you in terms of how God can transform you?

BRINGING IT HOME

6. Take a moment to write down some of ways you have disappointed Jesus recently. In light of what we just studied, what do you think Jesus wants to say to you?

What do you think He wants you to do?

REMINDER: Share in your Growth Group how your Easter invitations are going. Spend time praying for those you are inviting.

THE CHALLENGE OF DISAPPOINTMENT *PREVIOUSLY, IN MARK...*

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again...Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it." Mark 8:31,34-35

"Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:43-45

Preparing for Communion (also known as the Lord's Supper, Last Supper, or Eucharist)

1. Examine _____ and confess your sin
They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely not I?" Mk 14:19
2. Remember Jesus' offer of _____
"But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee." Mark 14:28
3. Remember Jesus' _____ on your life
The cup we use in the Lord's Supper and for which we give thanks to God: when we drink from it, we are sharing in the blood of Christ. And the bread we break: when we eat it, we are sharing in the body of Christ. Because there is the one loaf of bread, all of us, though many, are one body, for we all share the same loaf. 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 (GNT)

Growth Group Homework

For the Week of April 5, 2009

Mark 14:17-15:47

Have you ever experienced deep disappointment in yourself? How did you respond afterward?

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. What disappointments have you experienced recently?

4. Often when we experience disappointment in ourselves, we think “it’s all over.” In many cases, God wants to tell us that it’s not the end of the story He has for us, but rather just a chapter. After Jesus is resurrected, He meets up with Peter in **John 21:15-7**. How would you describe their conversation?

INTO THE BIBLE

2. On Sunday we read about the last 24 hours of Jesus’ life before He was killed. Take a minute to look back over these chapters in Mark and reflect on what you heard in this week’s message. What part(s) of this week’s Scripture caught your attention or challenged you?

What do you think it means to “feed by lambs,” “take care of my sheep,” and “feed by sheep”?

What do you think it meant to Peter that Jesus would trust Him with His “sheep”?

In what ways does this bring you hope?

3. In **Mark 14:71-72**, Peter said that he didn’t even know Jesus. He said this after spending three intense years bonding with Jesus. The Bible says that Peter “broke down and wept” afterward. What feelings do you think were behind those tears?