**Sermon Notes**

**“Peter’s Denials”**

**Mark 14:66–72**

**66 While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. 67 When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him. “You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus,” she said. 68 But he denied it. “I don’t know or understand what you’re talking about,” he said, and went out into the entryway. 69 When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, “This fellow is one of them.” 70 Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, “Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.” 71 He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, “I don’t know this man you’re talking about.” 72 Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times.” And he broke down and wept.**

**How Jesus Transform’s One’s Character**

**Peter’s Character**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 14:27-29)

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 14:37-42)

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 14:54)

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 14:54)

Without God’s gracious interference, each of our stories would end as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Ephesians 2:1–5

1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

**Peter’s Renewed Character (see John 21 and Acts 2)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 5:5)
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 5:8-9)

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 4:16)

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 2:11-12)

**Questions for Discussion**

1. What was the most interesting/new/stimulating/challenging aspect of the message for you?

2. Can we confess to being ashamed of our faith when put to the test? Do we feel intellectually disadvantaged, slightly ridiculous or even irrelevant when thought of as Christians?

3. How do we cope with hostile and accusatory questions about our faith? Is there a way to effectively witness to our belief in Jesus when being slandered?

4. How have you experienced Jesus transforming your character as you’ve followed him?

5. Read through the list of Scriptures taken from 1 Peter above. Which is most relevant to you personally? Why?

6. When have you been tempted to give up on faith due to a personal failure? What does this temptation reveal about our understanding of God’s love and grace?

7. How can you apply this message to your life this week in a practical way?