I Failed!
Now
What?



1957 Chevy Bel Air



I Failed! Now What? - John 21:15-19

Like vehicles: can get wrecked and need restoration

People fail

Researchers say one of biggest fears is fear of failure

I Failed! Now What? - John 21:15-19

Dream analysts tell us the most common dreams
- anxiety dreams

Failure occurs our entire lives; we aren't perfect "We all stumble in many things" (James 3:2)

Peter

Denied the Lord three times in one night

Spiritual failure

His failure became the fulcrum of his victory

Peter

Preached on <u>Pentecost</u>, thousands came forward Opened the door of the gospel to Cornelius and the <u>Gentiles</u>

Superintended the spread of the gospel north into Antioch of Syria

Addressed the Council at Jerusalem

Chuck Colson

"The real legacy of my life was my biggest failure—that I was an ex-convict. My greatest humiliation—being sent to prison—was the beginning of God's greatest use of my life; He chose the one experience in which I could not glory for His glory."

Public conversation

Peter <u>denied</u> the Lord over a fire; Jesus <u>restores</u>

Peter over a fire

Conversation between Jesus and Peter <u>alone</u>

Previously a <u>private</u> conversation

Love Christ Supremely

"The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" (Luke 24:34)

"He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve"

(1 Corinthians 15:5-6)

Public conversation

Peter <u>denied</u> Jesus publicly Jesus allows him to be <u>restored</u> publicly

A Probing Question

"A Man's repentance must be as notorious as his sin."—Charles Spurgeon

Love Christ Supremely (vv. 15-17)

Self reliance, self sufficiency a problem

Three times

Peter denied Jesus three times
The issue is how much you love the Lord
The Lord wants your heart above all else

A Pressing Reaction

God wants us to make an <u>honest</u> evaluation of ourselves before Him

We aren't very good at **honesty**

Honesty should prevail around God's people

The church is not a <u>museum</u> for saints, it's a hospital for sinners

A Promising Commission

Encouragement for a fallen leader

Births a supreme love for Christ

When you come to Christ, you surrender your
life

Surrender your control

A Promising Commission

Willing to be controlled by His will

"He who does not take his cross and follow after
Me is not worthy of Me" (Matthew 10:38)

May have to pay the ultimate price

Follow Christ Continually (v. 19)

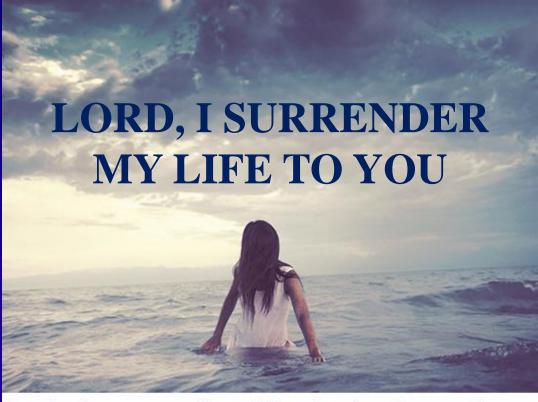
Peter denied Jesus in <u>Jerusalem</u>; Jesus restored him at the <u>lake</u>

Peter denied Jesus at night; Jesus restored Jesus during the day

Jesus was denied three times by Peter; Jesus is affirmed three times by Peter

Follow Christ Continually (v. 19)

Jesus took a weak, failed apostle and made him one of his greatest <u>ambassadors</u>



Lord, cleanse me of anything that breaks your heart.

