

March 19, 2023

Not Defined by Failure Matthew 26:69-75 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

Vol. 13 Num. 12

Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we will look at a section of Matthew 26. In this section Peter follows Jesus as He is taken away to stand trial. Peter is fearful and allows his fear to betray his beliefs. When asked if he knows Jesus Peter denies knowing Him three times in a row. Realizing what he has done he leaves and weeps bitterly. Peter does not run from Jesus following these events, he turns back to Jesus and Jesus uses him to start His church. Join us this week as we look at the truth that our failures do not define us.



Peter's Denials

69 Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A slave girl came to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” 70 But he denied it in front of them all: “I don’t know what you’re talking about!” 71 When he went out to the gateway, another slave girl saw him and said to the people there, “This man was with Jesus the Nazarene.” 72 He denied it again with an oath, “I do not know the man!” 73 After a little while, those standing there came up to Peter and said, “You really are one of them too – even your accent gives you away!” 74 At that he began to curse, and he swore with an oath, “I do not know the man!” At that moment a rooster crowed. 75 Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

1.

2.

3.

4.

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9.

10.

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

1. Why do you think Peter was outside in the courtyard?
2. Why would the slave girl suggest that Peter knew Jesus?
3. Why do you think Peter denied knowing Jesus?
4. What makes the people convinced that Peter knew Jesus?
5. Why does Peter weep?
6. Does Jesus forgive Peter?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes