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## Experiencing Forgiveness

Luke 22:54-62

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### 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.

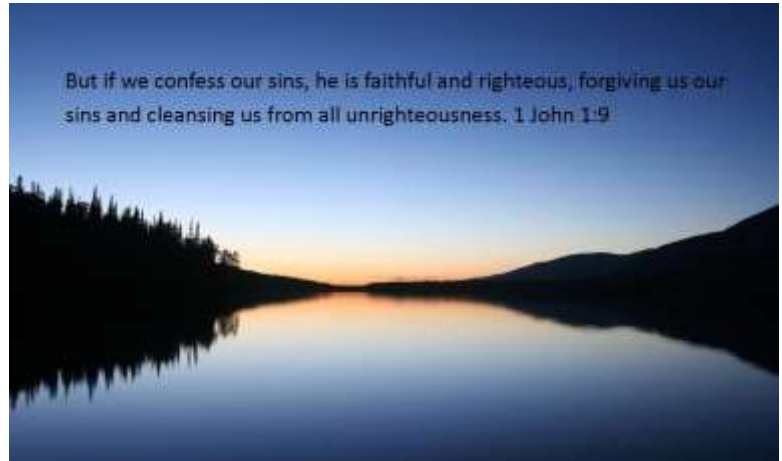
#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

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

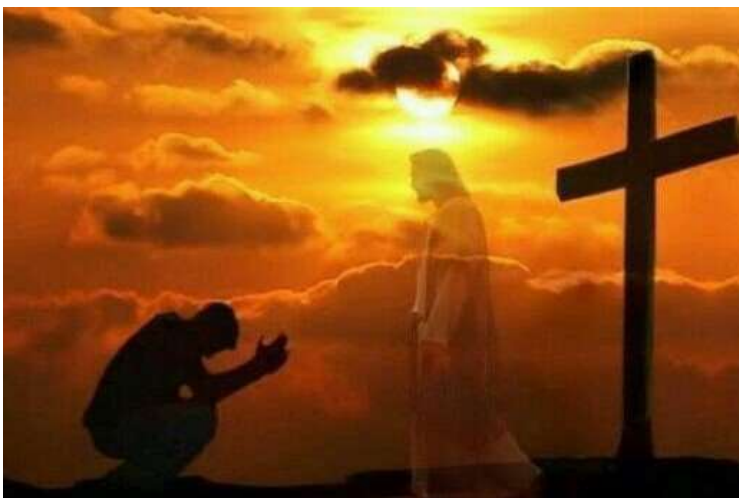
#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

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

But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous, forgiving us our sins and cleansing us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9



Toward the end of Chapter 22 of Luke, we see an encounter between Peter and a group of people in the courtyard of the High Priest. Peter is questioned about being one of the men that followed Jesus. Jesus is already in custody and about to face trial and execution. Peter, fearing for his life in the moment, denies Jesus 3 times, just as Jesus said he would. Peter is crushed by this failure, but he does not let it keep him from becoming a pillar in the early church, and fulfilling what Jesus called him to do. Today we will talk about how we can overcome our failures and embrace the ministry that Jesus has called us to.



## **Read Luke 22:39-53 (NET)**

<sup>54</sup> Then they arrested Jesus, led him away, and brought him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. <sup>55</sup> When they had made a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. <sup>56</sup> Then a slave girl, seeing him as he sat in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man was with him too!" <sup>57</sup> But Peter denied it: "Woman, I don't know him!" <sup>58</sup> Then a little later someone else saw him and said, "You are one of them too." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!"

<sup>59</sup> And after about an hour still another insisted, "Certainly this man was with him, because he too is a Galilean." <sup>60</sup> But Peter said, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. <sup>61</sup> Then the Lord turned and looked straight at Peter, and Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before a rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." <sup>62</sup> And he went outside and wept bitterly.

## **EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passages.**

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?

5. What is emphasized?

6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

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

8. Why did Peter deny Jesus?

9. Why do you think Peter would follow Jesus to the High Priest's house?

10. Why do you think Jesus told Peter that he was going to deny him? (22:31-34)

11. After Peter's third denial he wept bitterly. How does he go from being able to deny Jesus to being so upset about it so quickly?

12. Why do you think Jesus allows Peter to be tempted in a way that he would fail?

13. How does Peter respond to his failure in this text and beyond?

14. What does Peter learn from this experience?

**③ EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)

**Why does this MATTER to me?**

15. Is failure ever good for us in the long run? How can we use the experience of failure to grow?

16. Peter experiences a new level of forgiveness through this. How does this help his future ministry? How can understanding the level of God's forgiveness help our personal ministries?

17. (For personal consideration) Is there anyone that you need to forgive, reflecting the forgiveness you have received in Christ?

**Summarize your thoughts on the passage**

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

## **SERMON NOTES**