

Rooted South Sub Church October 5, 2025

The Vigilance and Victory: Fight Like a Follower

Luke 22:31-34 (NLT)

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. ³²But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers." ³³Peter said, "Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you, and even to die with you." ³⁴But Jesus said, "Peter, let me tell you something. Before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will deny three times that you even know me."

Sermon Summary:

Rooted is a 10-week journey through the life of the Apostle Peter, following his story as he learns to walk with Jesus. Each week, we'll step into a defining moment of Peter's life—his failures, his victories, his doubts, and his bold faith—and discover how God uses ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things. Rooted will help you grow deeper in faith, find strength in trials, and embrace the life God has called you to live. Whether you're brand new to faith or have been walking with Christ for years, this series will ground you in truth and inspire you to live boldly for Jesus.

Ice Breaker Questions:

- 1. Share a funny or memorable moment when you were absolutely confident about something—and turned out to be wrong.
- 2. What's one habit or activity that helps you stay steady when life feels like it's shaking you up?
- 3. When you're under pressure, are you more likely to speak boldly or stay quiet? Why?
- 4. Describe a time when someone believed in you even after you messed up. How did that feel?

Scripture Study Questions:

- Who does Jesus address directly in verse 31, and how does He repeat the name?
- What does Jesus say Satan has requested to do to Simon and the disciples?
- 3. What metaphor does Jesus use to describe Satan's intended action?
- 4. According to verse 32, what specific action has Jesus already taken on Simon's behalf?
- 5. What is the stated purpose of Jesus' prayer for Simon?



- 6. What task does Jesus assign to Simon once he has "turned back"?
- 7. In verse 33, how does Peter express his confidence in his loyalty to Jesus?
- 8. What two situations does Peter claim he is ready to face with Jesus?
- 9. What does Jesus predict Peter will do before the rooster crows?
- 10. How many times does Jesus say Peter will deny Him?

Interpretive Questions:

- 1. What does Jesus' statement that "Satan demanded to sift you like wheat" reveal about the reality of spiritual warfare and the limits of Satan's power?
- 2. Why might Jesus focus His prayer on Peter's faith "not failing" rather than praying that Peter avoid the trial altogether?
- 3. What does Jesus' command to "strengthen your brothers" teach about the relationship between personal failure and future ministry?
- 4. How does Peter's bold declaration of loyalty contrast with Jesus' prediction, and what does this reveal about human self-confidence?
- 5. In what ways does this passage demonstrate that God's grace can redeem a person's weakness or denial?

Application Questions:

- 1. When have you felt "sifted like wheat"—tested or shaken—and how did you experience God's presence or protection in that season?
- 2. Where might you be relying on your own strength or self-confidence, as Peter did, instead of depending on Christ's power?
- 3. How can Jesus' example of praying for Peter shape the way you pray for friends or loved ones who are struggling in their faith?
- 4. If you have experienced spiritual failure or denial of Christ, what steps can you take toward restoration and strengthening others?
- 5. Who in your life needs encouragement to "strengthen their faith," and what practical action can you take to support them this week?