

February 25 - March 2

Saints and Sinners | Faithfulness After Failure

Icebreaker: How do you respond when someone fails you? How do you respond to your own failures?

Read Luke 22:31-34

- Why would Satan demand to have Peter? How might this be connected with Jesus' naming and pronouncement regarding Peter, which Pastor Lee covered in last week's sermon?
- Why must Satan demand to afflict someone? See Job 1:6–12. What do these passages tell us about the limits of Satan's power or influence? What does it tell us about God's authority?
- What would it mean for Satan to sift Peter like wheat?
- Has there ever been a time in your life when you have felt like you were thrown up in the air and thrashed about? What did you do?
- Jesus forecasts Peter's failure *and* his return. Why would it be important for Peter to hear both of those things?
- Jesus assumes Peter's return or repentance: "When you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." How do failures and repentance allow us to help others?

Read Luke 22:54-61

- What do you notice about Peter in this story, in contrast to the other disciples? What does this tell us about him?
- Why did Peter betray Jesus three times? What was he afraid of? How did he respond after his failure?
- Jesus prayed that Peter's faith would not fail, yet Peter denied Jesus three times. Was Jesus' prayer unanswered? Why?
- What was Peter putting his trust in when he stated he would never turn away? Why was this destined to fail?
- What dangers do we face as believers when we over-focus on our own faithfulness?
- What's the difference between putting trust in your own faithfulness as a follower of Jesus and putting your trust in Jesus' faithfulness?
- Read 1 Peter 5:8-11.
 - What lesson did Peter learn that he wants to pass on to the church?
 - What must we do? What is promised to us?

