

WHAT WAS PETER THINKING?

“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you are turned back, strengthen your brothers” (Luke 22:31-32). Here is the forewarning Jesus gives Peter before his denial of his Lord. Fact is, Satan wants to destroy strongest first—this military sagacity is as old as the devil in the Garden.

James Montgomery Boice (Commentary on John, 1412ff) suggests several things in defense of Peter:

- Peter did follow Jesus further than any other disciple (excepting perhaps John) even into the courtyard of tyranny (John 18).
- Peter loved Jesus intensely. He followed Jesus to Jerusalem instead of fleeing to Bethany. He traveled close to the arresting party and even sought entry into the evil high priest’s home.
- Peter tried to physically save Jesus by drawing his sword even in the midst of a multitude of soldiers.
- It was Peter who confessed Christ as the Son of God (Mt. 16).

This all tells us that no one is beyond the devil’s snares. Peter’s sin of denial may not look like the “biggy” sins we normally think of when folks deny their Lord, but in terms of consequences because who Peter was, they were larger than life.

What was Peter thinking?

- Peter may have been thinking that the young girl’s question in the courtyard was inconsequential. Maybe it was because she framed it in a negative way, “Surely you are not...” Maybe it just appeared to Peter getting into the place where his Lord was more important than answering the girl in a positive and straightforward manner. Well, Peter—it made headlines in a book that was forever! Rationale # 1. Don’t think your sins are so small that no one will take account of them.
- Peter may have been thinking that his private faith in Jesus was somehow “above the truth!” Peter did not deny his faith here, he rationalized his “untruth” somehow—an almost always deadly thought process. I have been plagued at times with this idea that somehow one can live above everyday life on a plane having to do with the Kingdom of God which has allowed deception—an awful twist to the truth of God’s will. Peter may have been thinking that as long as he got to where he was going—to be with Jesus—how he got there was alright! NOT!
- He may have been thinking his comfort was more important than anything else. The Apostle John told us that he was “warming himself with the enemy’s fires” (John 18:25). In America, comfort is King and happiness is Queen. “God wants me to be happy” is the largest lie in life’s book of contradictions. God wants me to belong to Him and Him alone is the truth about that. I don’t know very many people I read about in the Bible who would be considered “happy” by American standards today. I think of the times of the “Great Depression” in America. I scarcely doubt if suicide was more rampant then than now. Someone can research that for me maybe (Jerry). Probably the more we follow Jesus the less “Americana Happiness” will be realized. It was the great German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer who said, “Jesus bids me come and die with him.” This is a long way from the idea that if I become a Christian I get a pair of happy feet! yc

PRAYER LIST

- ♥ Betsy Canfield is in room 6008 at Baptist hospital.
- ♥ Joy Courtney, Yale & Betsy’s friend, is awaiting test results.
- ♥ Sam & Jackie Estes, Nancy Head’s parents. Sam is in Baptist East in Hornlake with fluid on his heart and difficulty breathing. He’s had a bad year; the trips to the hospital are more difficult to cope with as his heart gets steadily weaker.
- ♥ Betty Burton, friend of Jim & Nancy Head, is struggling with chemo treatments for cancer. The cancer is very stubborn; pray for her and her family.
- ♥ Larry Mittlestat is back in the VA hospital.
- ♥ Ann Mobley is home recovering.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER

Howard Farrar, Mary Louise Gipson, Beverly Graham, Beverly Hufstetler, Charlotte Hunter, Larry Mittlestat, Joe Saia, and Mart Salley.

CROSSGATES NURSING HOME DEVO.

Please remember those in the Crossgates Nursing home. They are so uplifted by the devotionals, singing and prayer that are offered to God in their presence. Our next visit will be August 19 at 2:00. Please come and let them know how much God loves them. Some residents have expressed an interest in spending more time with us in way of more singing and/or games following the devotional. If you are able to stay a little while longer, the residents would enjoy spending time with you.

PANTRY

The pantry is VERY bare. Try to remember to pick up your groups items. If you are not in a group, pick up any item on the list. We can never have too much. If you would like to donate money just drop you donation into the contribution plate with a note or memo that it is for the pantry.

LEADERSHIP MEETING

We will have our next Leadership Meeting on Sunday, August 26 at 7:30 a.m.

LADIES NIGHT OUT

We will meet at Shoney’s in Pearl on Thursday, August 23 at 6:30 p.m. to eat a meal together and discuss the Ladies Ministry. It is time to reorganize the Ladies Ministry. Ladies, come and join together for fun, fellowship, and food. We need input from every lady.

SENIOR MEMO

The Senior Events Director of Pearl and the Pearl Police Department are getting together a SALT (Senior and Law Enforcement Together) Program. This program will enable seniors to stay up-to-date on all of the scams and other corrupt individuals. They would like 2 representatives from each Senior Adult Group in Pearl to participate in their meeting on Thursday, September 6 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. To get more information, see the letter posted on the bulletin board.

SINGING

There will be a singing at the Clinton Church of Christ on Saturday, September 29. They will begin at 6:00 p.m. and continue until 8:00 p.m. More information will be forthcoming as the date draws closer.

CRAFTER’S MEETING

Joy Wells is opening her home to anyone who would like to come and be a part of a “Crafter’s Club” on Saturday, August 18 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Bring whatever you are working on, come wanting to learn a new craft, or come with ideas of things the group could do as a whole to help in our community or congregation. Joy is currently working on Prayer Quilts. If you are interested in finding our more about these, come by and give it a try.

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

Contact Tim Nelson if unable to serve at 601-853-3704.

8/19/07

Greeters Blevins Life Group
 Song Leader Tim Farrar
 Call to Worship Allen Rogers
 Prayer Tim Farrar
 Presiding Alvin McMillen
 Closing Prayer Jeff Sweeney

Serving

LaRan Kilpatrick	Al Ellis
Ryan Hamrick	Todd Lott
Tyrone Oliver	Dan Ellis

Evening Worship Life Groups
 Nursery Helga Mittlestat
 Children’s Worship Kim McDaniel

8/26/07

Greeters Sweeney Life Group
 Song Leader Tim Farrar
 Call to Worship Glynn McMillen
 Prayer Jim Head
 Presiding Jerry Mitchell
 Closing Prayer Ryan Hamrick

Serving

Dusty Reynolds	Al Ellis
Terry Claunch	Justin McCoy
Danny Dendy	Ken Salley

Evening Worship Life Groups
 Nursery Nancy Head
 Children’s Worship Jenny Farrar

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Aug. 19– Ps. 112-115; 1 Corinthians 1
 Aug 20- Ps. 116-118; 1 Cor. 2
 Aug. 21- Ps. 119:1-48; 1 Cor. 3
 Aug. 22- Ps. 119:49-104; 1 Cor. 4
 Aug. 23- Ps. 119:105-176; 1 Cor. 5
 Aug. 24– Ps. 120-123; 1 Cor. 6
 Aug. 25– Ps. 124-127; 1 Cor. 7:1-24

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 18 – Crafter’s Club
 August 19- Crossgates Nursing Home Devotional
 August 23 – Ladies Night Out
 August 26 – Leadership Meeting
 September 6 – SALT Meeting
 September 29 – Singing at Clinton Church of Christ

LIFE GROUPS		
Area	Location	Leaders
South Brandon	Rotated	Paul McManaway
		Glynn McMillen
Pearl	Building	David Blevins
		Lonnie Livingston
Florence/Star	Rotated	Yale Canfield
		Allen McDaniel
Brandon	Sweeney Home	Jeff Sweeney
		Tim Farrar
Reservoir	Rogers Home	Jim Head
		Allen Rogers
Teens	Varies	Ken Salley

Mission Statement for Heart Matters
 To enhance the mission of the Skyway Hills church of Christ and to build a sense of community among the members of the body of Christ through an accurate and quality communication of 1) ministries and activities of the church 2) the opportunities for each member to find fulfillment as disciples of Jesus and 3) the scriptural application of God's Word to life relevant issues today.

Heart matters

Skyway Hills Church of Christ
 Highway 80 East
 P.O. Box 5600
 Pearl, MS 39288

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 JACKSON, MS
 PERMIT NO. 301

Schedule of Service
 Sunday Bible Class.....9:00 am
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 am
 Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 pm
 Wednesday..... 7:00 pm

*“Since then,
 you have
 been raised
 with
 Christ,
 set your
 hearts
 on things
 above.”*
 Colossians 3:1

Skyway Hills Church of Christ
 Phone: 601-939-5473 • Fax: 601-939-5447
 Web: www.skywayhills.org • E-mail: skywayhillchurch@bellsouth.net
 Elders - Lonnie Livingston • Al Garner
 Minister – Yale Canfield
 Email: yalec@bellsouth.net
 Youth Minister – Ken Salley


August 19, 2007

YOUTH

(6th - 12th grades)

YAKS

(K-5th grades)



SECRET MESSAGE

CAN YOU HELP SOLVE THE SECRET MESSAGE?

Use the key on the right to find out what number matches each letter

WHAT VERSE IN THE BIBLE TELLS US
 HOW MUCH GOD LOVES US?

— — — — — . — — — — —
 10 15 8 14 C A F

SECRET MESSAGE KEY			
A	1	N	14
B	2	O	15
C	3	P	16
D	4	Q	17
E	5	R	18
F	6	S	19
G	7	T	20
H	8	U	21
I	9	V	22
J	10	W	23
K	11	X	24
L	12	Y	25
M	13	Z	26



Heartbeat

FREE INDEED GAVE US their hearts this weekend. They are the most passionate of any group I have ever known. In the early 80's, they began as a small family quartet and made initial appearances at Jubilee and Tulsa where the churches of Christ gathered to study, fellowship, and worship the Lord in the largest gatherings of the church in history. Cutting edge teachers, preachers, and singers gathered for a week of intense fellowship and praise.

At a small booth we first met and began a long time relationship with this family from Arkansas. Our love has grown through the years and their talent has soared to greater heights. From family to Christian Corporation, they have maintained their personal relationships through the years. We were blessed to have them here. It is our hope we can partner with them in greater ways in the years to come. Thanks to Tim Nelson for spearheading their annual concert here. Next year we are planning an extravaganza of worship and praise.

Your continued love and support for Betsy and I and family is just amazing. We are humbled by your generosity, love, and prayers. Please continue to bear us up as we await a gift of life from some dear person who marked “organ donor” on their license. I hope you are considering this important gift. PLEASE become a donor when you renew your license this year or next.

It would be great if the entire church made that change. I will be glad to talk to you if you have any reservations at all about becoming an organ donor.

Our dear friend in Delaware, Joy Courtney has received bad news about her recent chemo treatment for liver and bladder cancer. There are still some tumors and there is nothing more to be done outside of experimental treatment. Let's pray for Joy daily that God will intervene and spare her with healing by his powerful Spirit who indwells each of us and all of us Christians corporately. Please pray for her.

My recent visit with Larry Mittlestat was wonderful. Late at night I slipped into his room at VA and we laughed and talked of military experience, life and the church. Even in the midst of pain and anguish Larry finds time to laugh and enjoy people. No one would enjoy a visit more than he. Pray that he will find God's healing presence each day.

- Deacons**
- David Blevins, Education
 - Tim Nelson, Calls/Visitor/Greeters
 - Jim Head, Life Groups
 - Allen Rogers, YAKS