

MARINERS CHURCH



Easter People Bounce 3.19.23

"Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death."
"I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me." -- Peter and Jesus, Luke 22:33-34

Failure happens and it happens because of me.

We all stumble in many ways. James 3:2 (NIV)

"You are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it, saying, "I am not." John 18:25

Then Peter went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth." He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!" After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away." Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter.... And Peter went outside and wept bitterly. John 18, Luke 2

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." – Jesus, Matthew 5:3-4 (NASB)



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God's story for Easter People doesn't end with failure.

Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you." Jesus said, "Then feed my sheep. John 21:15-17

God does not give up when I fail.

But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." Luke 22:32

Failure moves me from what I think I can be, to what God wants me to be.

For your LifeGroup and growth time.

Read Peter's 'fall' in John 18:1-27

What is happening here?

How are we similar in many ways to Peter?

What could Jesus have done to prevent Peter from falling into sin? (be careful with this one).

Peter went out and 'wept'. What's the difference between feeling guilty and feeling sorrowful for what you've done? (see 2 Corinthians 7:9-11).

What does it mean to "bounce back"? When you bounce back, do you 'rebound' stronger or weaker? Or both? Explain.

Do you know of a person who had bounced back from a spiritual fall? (no names, please!).

Pray together and support each other!

If you'd like to grow in your faith and connect with others, LifeGroups are a great place for you. For more information, drop us your name and we'll get back to you (emma@marinerscc.org)