



A Dark Courtyard

March 10 – March 17

This sermon study is designed to be used the week after the sermon it supplements. Use the left side of this sheet to prepare for your group time. Use the right side to facilitate your group discussion. The purpose of this guide is to help your group, collectively and individually, grow closer to Jesus.

INTENTIONAL LEADERSHIP

- **Pray** that your group will be a place where people find encouragement and hope during this series.
- **Evaluate** where your group members are on their spiritual journey. **Identify the next step towards growth** that you can help them take.
- Choose a part of your life group time this week (perhaps prayer) that you can **hand-off** to a person you see leading a group one day. Text them before your group meets to let them know you'll be asking for their help!

RELATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

- Try to text or call each person in your group this week to see how you can pray for them.
- **Weekly Leader Tip:** Lean into follow-up questions when someone in your group shares. Extending an invitation to explore a response a bit more is often extremely impactful in your group member really "getting it."
- Start your time with a conversation about highs and lows from the week.

PLANNED SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE

Consider using one of your upcoming life group meetings as a time to pray **prophetic prayers** over one another, and spend time calling out the giftedness in each other. Life group is the perfect place to be lifted up and challenged to learn how God wants to use us.

SERIES RECAP

During this series, we are looking at the life of Jesus in the last week before His death. We have several significant stops on the road to His death recorded in scripture, each teaching us something significant about Him. With His sight set on the cross, Jesus takes us through profound moments of His life, and it all leads to a place of eternal **hope**.

SERMON SUMMARY

In Luke 22, we read about a defining moment in the life of Peter, the disciple Jesus named to reflect solidarity and strength. In a time of pressure, Peter fell into the temptation of Satan and denied his relationship with Jesus. This is a reminder of how prone we are to wander and fail. We can now look at Jesus' unflinching love for Peter and the steps that led to Peter's mistake. The question we must consider, "How can we stay strong and committed to Jesus though we are flawed and prone to fail him?"

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

Have someone in your group read Luke 22:24-38, 54-62.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you learn about Peter in these texts?
2. In your own life, how have you related with Peter?
3. What would it look like for you to be more committed in resisting the tendency to wander or "fall" spiritually?
4. What would change in our community if we addressed our pride, prayer lives, and commitment to Jesus more honestly?
5. How do you think God is asking you to respond to the message this week?