

Title: The Greatest Love
Subtitle: Unfaithful Friends of Christ
Text: Luke 22:54-62
Date: February 20, 2022
Subject Matter: Denial. Failure. Forgiveness.

1. Know _____ (vv.54-60)

Luke 22

54 Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. **55** And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. **56** Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, "This man also was with him." **57** But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." **58** And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not." **59** And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean." **60** But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. **61** And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." **62** And he went out and wept bitterly.

2. Know _____ (v.61)

3. Know _____ (v.62)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Read **Matthew 13:24-30**. What makes it challenging in some situations to distinguish the sinful stumbling of Peter from the sinful apostasy of Judas? What is at stake for our own lives if we fail to discern the difference?
2. Read **Luke 5:8; 18:10-14** and **James 3:2**. What is the problem with those who insist on being “wheat” (cf. Mt.13) by claiming that they are not sinners?
3. Read **Titus 2:11-14**. How can you reconcile being consciously aware of your spiritual frailties while zealously and confidently pursuing these aspirations?
4. Read **James 4:4-10**. What do you learn from this passage about getting up and moving forward when you have stumbled in your Christian walk?