

## THE DIFFERENCE

Have you ever heard someone say, “What difference does it make?” Today I want to answer the question, “What difference does the resurrection make?” by looking at the life of Peter.

### Peter the fisherman

**Luke 5:1-11 – “...Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.”**

### Peter the disciple

**Matthew 16:16 ...You are the Christ the Son of the living God...**

**Matthew 26:31-33-** Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of Me... <sup>33</sup>Peter replied, "**Even if all fall away on account of You, I never will.**" (NIV)

### Peter the shaken believer

**Matthew 26:57-58-** Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. <sup>58</sup>**But Peter followed him at a distance**, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome. (NIV)

### Peter the watcher

Peter is there watching the trial... **sat down with the guards to see the outcome**

### Peter the denier

- **First denial:** you are with Him I recognize you... **I am not** you have me confused with someone else
- **Second denial...** your accent give you away... I can tell by the way you speak you are a Galilean  
**Matthew 26:72** – And again he denied it with an oath: “I do not know the man.”

### **The trial escalates**

**Mark 15:17-19** – They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. <sup>18</sup>And they began to call out to him, "Hail, king of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup>Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. (NIV)

**Matthew 26:67-68:** Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, <sup>68</sup> saying, “Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?” (NIV)

- **Third denial-** you really are one of His...  
**Matthew 26:74** ...then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know the man.” **Immediately a rooster crowed.** (NIV)

**Luke 22:61** – **The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter.** (NIV)

**TCC-** Peter is us!! We also deny Him in times of pressure

**Titus 1:16-** They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny Him. (NIV)

### **Peter the fisherman...again**

**John 21:3** – “I’m going fishing...” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

**John 21:4-5** – Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. (NIV)

**TCC** -Why did Jesus repeat His very first miracle at Peter’s boat?

- I believe it was for Peter – He takes him right back to the call... Follow me and I will make You fishers of men

## **The Difference**

- Peter on the Day of Pentecost... preaching and 3000 are saved...
- Peter declaring to the lame man... Silver and Gold have I none...
- Peter who sang praise at midnight, beaten and imprisoned...
- Peter's shadow passing over sick people and they're healed...
- Peter, the leader of the first century church

This is quite a turnaround from denial and going back to his former life... What was the difference?

### **The resurrection makes all the difference:**

- Before he thought Jesus was God but now He KNOWS it.

### **The resurrection difference**

Peter always thought the cross would end in death ... but now is the first time he knows it really ends in life.