

Gains and Losses In Following Jesus

This week – The Lord Jesus teaches us that if we confess our sin to Him He will forgive us.

**Jesus said to Simon Peter:
 “Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me?”
 He saith unto Him,
 “Yes, Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee.”
 John 21v16.**

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Mark 14v26-31,54,66-72(Peter’s promise and denial)	
Monday	Luke 22v31-54 (The Lord foretells Peter’s denial)	
Tuesday	Luke 22v55-71 (Peter denies knowing Jesus)	
Wednesday	John 21v1-17 (Peter repentant, forgiven, restored)	
Thursday	1 Peter 2v1-25 (Peter says Christ died for his sins)	
Friday	Acts 2v14-28 (Peter preaches boldly)	
Saturday	Acts 2v29-47 (Many believed and were baptised)	

Important Thought for us Today: What is Love? God does not just love, **He is Love!** It is not merely one of His attributes, it is His very nature! The greatest demonstration of His love is God the Son dying to save lost, undeserving sinners, who only cause Him grief and sorrow. **John 3 v16.** What a blessing for us that God’s love is eternal, gracious, unchanging, and uninfluenced. God has placed the capacity to love within the human soul allowing us to appreciate beautiful things and love each other. Yet our love easily turns to hate due to sin. We see this when a man and a woman, once so full of love, marry to become one, then fall out and seek divorce. The ultimate manifestation of human love is demonstrated at conversion when our souls respond in repentance and obedience because of the Saviour’s love for us! The Lord says to us, **“If you love Me keep My commandments”.** **John 14 v15**

Hymn 210 - expressing the unashamed joy of personally knowing the Saviour:

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| 1. Jesus, and shall it ever be,
A mortal man ashamed of Thee,
Ashamed of Thee, Whom angels praise,
Whose glories shine through endless days?
5. Ashamed of Jesus! – Yes, I may
When I’ve no guilt to wash away,
No tear to wipe, no good to crave,
No fears to quell, no soul to save. | 4. Ashamed of Jesus, that dear Friend
On Whom my hopes of Heaven depend!
No! when I blush, be this my shame,
That I no more revere His name.
6. Till then – nor is my boasting vain-
Till then I boast a Saviour slain;
And O, may this my glory be,
That Christ is not ashamed of me. |
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EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

Gaining From Loss – Peter’s Denial and Restoration.

- **The Lord warned His Disciples they would All Desert Him at His Arrest.**
 - **Bold Peter** vehemently said, **“I will not deny thee in any wise (way).”**
- **Peter’s denial Cost himself and his Saviour much pain and sorrow by:**
 - **Deserting Jesus** – So soon after he had boldly promised to stay by His side.
 - **Denying Knowing Jesus** – Even when challenged by a mere servant girl, he cursed and swore rather than acknowledging he was the Lord’s disciple.
 - **Weeping bitterly** - The cock crowed the 2nd time, as Jesus had predicted. Peter was so ashamed – earlier he was so full of self-confidence, but now he had failed to keep his promise, deserted his Lord, and cowardly lied.
- **Yet, through Christ’s forgiving love, Peter gained spiritually by:**
 - **Learning a Great Lesson** – From now on he must, and would, fully trust Him as God; His Saviour Who knew him better than he knew himself!
 - **Discovering** that total dependence on the Lord was needed otherwise he would miserably fail, costing his Saviour much sorrow and grief.
 - **Appreciating** the Lord’s undeserved kindness, love, and mercy. During His ‘trial’, the Lord looked at Peter with compassion. **Luke 22v61.**
 - **Experiencing True Repentance** – He wept bitterly in true sorrow for his sin.
 - **‘Tasting’ Forgiveness** – Believing that Christ died to be punished for all his sin so that he could now be reconciled to his Saviour and Lord. **1 Peter 2v24.** The Lord asked Peter three times – **“Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me?”** Peter answered, **“Lord ... Thou knowest that I love Thee.”** **John 21v15-17.** The Lord, knowing that he was sincerely repentant, said, **“Feed My sheep”.**
- **Once Humbled and Forgiven, Peter is greatly used of God:**
 - Peter the Apostle became a great Christian leader. On the Day of Pentecost (the start of the New Testament Church), he preached Christ as the promised Saviour, with boldness, remaining faithful to God throughout his life, and was inspired by God to write Scripture - 1 & 2 Peter.
- **We too can Gain Forgiveness and Help By Depending on the Saviour:**
 - Too cowardly and ashamed of Jesus? Pray for His special strength and help.
 - Too confident in ourselves to follow the Lord? Pray for humility.

Come in humble repentance to the Lord Who lovingly receives and forgives.

The Apostle Peter wrote, “... because Christ also suffered for us ... Who His own self bare in His body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by Whose stripes ye are healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop (Pastor) of your souls

1 Peter 2v21, 24-25.