

Sunday, March 25, 2018 – Palm Sunday

Sermon: Peter – The Fragile Stone



Peter is considered the chief of the apostles. He was the one on which Jesus said He would build the church. Peter is seen as being less than great in most of the accounts we have of him. In spite of mistakes he would make he loved Jesus and tried to be faithful.

Read Mark 8:27-33



When Jesus asked the disciples who they said He was it was Peter who gave the answer, “You are the Messiah.” On saying this Jesus changes his name from Simon to Peter. Peter means rock. Before Jesus could begin His trip to Jerusalem to be crucified He needed the disciples to say out loud what they were thinking. Peter did that. Jesus then told them what it meant to be the Messiah, that He would have to die. Peter objected to that. He had been raised believing the Messiah would come as a King, not as someone who would die. Peter objects to what Jesus says and tries to correct Him. After the great moment of being named Peter and told he was the rock that Christ would build the church upon, Jesus then calls him Satan. Jesus did not want to die. Peter tempted Jesus with his argument. Jesus knew what had to be done and began the journey to His death.

Read Matthew 14:22-31



One of the things that Peter is known for is his time of walking on water. Of all of the disciples Peter was the only one who was willing to get out of the boat and walk out on the water. What we usually remember about this is that he took his eyes off of Jesus and sank. He was the only one who tried and for a while he kept his eyes on Jesus and did walk. When he looked away his fear took over and he failed. Jesus criticizes Peter for his lack of faith. He may have failed, but Peter did try.

Read Luke 22:54-62



Another time Peter failed was when he denied Jesus three times on the night of His arrest. Peter was outside the High Priest's house when Jesus was there. In the Upper Room Peter had promised Jesus that he would stay with Jesus even if it meant his death. Jesus told Peter that he would deny Jesus before morning. He tried to stay close, but three times people accused Peter of being one of Jesus' disciples and Peter denied it. We do not see the other disciples being with Jesus when He is on trial. Peter tried to be faithful, but his fear kept him from doing it.

Read John 21:15-19



Even though Peter failed Jesus, Jesus did not fail Peter. After the Resurrection Jesus took Peter with Him on a walk. On that walk three times Jesus asked Peter if Peter loved Him. Each time Peter said yes and Jesus gave Him a mission. In spite of failing Jesus, Peter was still loved by Jesus. He still had a job to do. Jesus let Peter know He was still the Rock. Peter messed up several times, but yet Jesus never gave up on him.

We mess up. We fail Jesus. Jesus still loves us. He still has a job for us to do. We need to follow as we have been told.