

## Fail to Watch and Fail to Pray

Written by Peter Yoksan

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Mathew 26:69-75

By: Pr Peter Yoksan

(The Sermon Summary is compiled by Pipit M Jong)

Jesus had instructed Peter to pray 3 times in the garden of Getsemani but Peter instead of praying he felt asleep 3 times. In Mathew 26:69-75 we can see 3 points of the sequences of Peter's denial of Jesus:

1. Peter pretended that he didn't understand the girl saying (v. 69-70)
2. Peter did not dare to admit that he knew Jesus (v. 71-74)
3. The sad ending of Peter's denial (v. 75)

Peter denied Jesus 3 times because he failed to watch and failed to pray 3 times. It was not because Peter did not know Jesus. He knew Jesus very well. There are 5 points to prove how well Peter knew Jesus very well:

1. He followed Jesus from the beginning (Mat. 4:17-19). Peter was one of Jesus's first disciples after Andrew introduced Jesus to him.
2. Jesus healed Peter's mother in law from sick (Mat. 8:14-15). This showed Jesus knew Peter and even his family.
3. Peter walked on the water (Mat. 14:22-23). No other people in this world had ever walked on the water except Jesus and Peter because only Peter alone that dared to



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it, we want to have it too. We are just like the dead fishes that flow wherever the stream flow.

2. Peter was proud Peter had boasted. He was the only one among other disciples who told Jesus that if Jesus was jailed he would follow to be in jail too, and if Jesus was going to die he would die with Jesus.

Are we proud like Peter? There are 2 kinds of proud people. First one are the people who are clever, rich and educated but they like to show off. They want other people to know about their capabilities so they will boast about their cleverness, money and education. Second one are those who are not smart, not rich and have not much education but they like to pretend to be smart, to be rich and to be educated. Therefore, we must be careful to not to boast about ourselves.

3. Peter was lazy Mathew 26:36-46 told us that when he was asked to watch and pray, he did not do it. He used the time for praying to sleep.

Lazyness brings unpreparedness. This happens often times. We are lazy to prepare our duties. We are lazy to do our works. Although we do, many times we do it in hurry. Lazyness never will make us a better person.

4. Peter was afraid We notice from the beginning that Peter followed Jesus from far off. He did not rightly run away from Jesus. He wanted to see what would happen to Jesus, but since Jesus had become the enemy for those people he started to make a distance from Jesus hoping that people would not recognise him as Jesus' disciple.

Many times, we want to follow Jesus but we were afraid. Many Christians feel shy to be seen bringing Bible. Some shy to pray in the restaurant and some even shy to be seen together with their fellow Christians. Afraidness can make a believer to be a worse Christian who dare not to show faith in public.

The above 4 reasons had brought Peter fail to watch and to pray and thus he had denied Jesus 3 times. So how did he overcome then? After repented and received the filling of the Holy Spirit Peter became the contrary person, with 4 criterias:

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1. Peter was controlled by the Holy Spirit  
He who was controlled by the world before but after he received the filling of the Holy Spirit he became a new person who admonish us in 1 Pet 2:11 that we are just as strangers and pilgrims and abstain from fleshly lust, which war against the soul.  
Therefore, we must keep a distance from this world. Do not anyhow accept what the world offer. Do not be like a dead fish but be like a living fish that swims against the flow of this world.

2. Peter became a humble person  
From a very proud person, Peter had turned to be a humbly person after his repentance. He taught us to be clothed with humility (1 Pet 5:5). The Lord love the humble but He will bring down the proud.  
As children of God, one must learn to control his mouth not to boast about himself. It is very easy to show to other about our own greatness but let us remember the Apostle Peter. ♦ Let us be humble one to another.

3. ♦ Peter became a deligent person  
After his repantance, Peter was not a lazy person anymore but instead he had became ♦ deligently pray and meditate upon God's ♦ Word. He even instructed believers to be sober and vigilant against the devil (1 Pet 5:8-9). The Book of Acts chapter 2 to 12 is one of the ministry of the Spirit through Peter.  
Lets throw our lazyness. Be deligent in preparing in serving the Lord and in whatever duties that had laid upon us. Catch any opportunity to study and meditate God's Word. Learn from the ants. They use every opportunity to work and gather food. They never procrastinate their duties.

4. Peter became a daring person  
Peter who was from the begining a daring person had became a coward at last when Jesus was caught by His enemy. He who dared to challange Jesus to give him the power to walk on the water, and dared to use his sword to cut off one soldier's ear in Getsemani became very afraid at Jesus' last moments. But after his repentance he was given a courage spirit. Acts 1-12 was the proof text of his caurage. The most daring part Peter did where he left his profession as fisher of fishes to became the fisher of men. And according to church history he dared to die for Christ for he was crucified up side down in Rome.  
Lets learn from Peter's example. Pray that God will give us the courage spirit so we will able to overcome our afraidness to not be shy to introduce Christ to others and not to be shy to show others that we are the children of God.

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background-repeat: initial initial;"> </span><br /> <br /> <span style="background-position: initial initial; background-repeat: initial initial;"> As a conclusion, lets restate the above 4 points lesson of Peter's examples:<span> </span></span></span></p> <p class="MsoNormal"><span style="font-size: 12.0pt; line-height: 115%; font-family: "><br /> <span style="background-position: initial initial; background-repeat: initial initial;">1. ♦Worldly become spiritually</span><br /> <span style="background-position: initial initial; background-repeat: initial initial;">2. Proud become humbly</span><br /> <span style="background-position: initial initial; background-repeat: initial initial;">3. Lazy become deligently</span><br /> <span style="background-position: initial initial; background-repeat: initial initial;">4. Afraid become daring</span></span></p> <p class="MsoNormal"><span style="font-size: 12.0pt; line-height: 115%; font-family: "><span style="background-position: initial initial; background-repeat: initial initial;"><br /></span></span></p> <p>Data: Manify The Word (FEBC's 50th Anniversary Book, AD 2012)</p> <p>Pipit M Jong is Mrs Peter Yoksan</p> <p>She has BSc in Economics and MRE (FEBC class 2005)</p> <p>And currently she teaches Hebrew Elementary and NT Studies at URBC (Upper Room Bible College)</p> <p>By God's grace she has 5 children.</p> <p></p>