

## Sermon Notes:

### Series: Redeem Your Regrets, # 1

#### Peter & Jesus, from Denial to Restoration

##### John 18 – 21

No one needs their pastor to speak about regret, to know what it is. Sometimes you know it immediately, on other occasions the realization creeps up on you: that was a mistake. I said or did something I should not have, I failed to do something I should have, I made a bad decision, I lost an amazing opportunity, I offended a person I love, I offended someone I don't even know... the list is long.

We'd all love to believe that following Jesus means we no longer have regrets. But we know better: as we grow in discipleship, we still trip up, and are forced to deal with the gnawing pain of regrets. Passion Week presents an obvious study in regrets > the Apostle Peter.

Read these passages and recall how Peter in a moment of passion, of self protection, denied knowing Jesus, and the deep regret he felt, and how Jesus treated him afterwards.

John 13:31-38      Jesus predicts Peter's denial

John 18:15-18      Peter denies Jesus

John 18:25-27      Peter denies a second and third time

Matthew 26:75      Peter wept bitterly

John 20:1-10      Peter's response when he heard about the empty tomb  
Q: Why do you think he ran to the tomb?

John 20:19-20      Jesus said to the disciples: "Peace be with you"  
The disciples were overjoyed  
Q: Why those words? Why that emotional reaction?

John 21

Before the boat gets to shore, Peter dives into the lake

Q: Why was he so anxious to see Jesus again?

Of the disciples present, Jesus address Peter

Q: Why does he ask "Do you love me?" 3 times?

Q: Does Peter feel restored after his encounter?

Make note of regrettable moments, words, actions in your own life. How does the Easter story give you hope that those can be redeemed? Write out your action plan and prayer. If that moment of 'redemption' already happened, pause to give thanks to the Lord for his mercy in our failures.