

Mentor/Student Discussion Guide

Simon Peter

December 2022

- *Your goals in your time together today are check in with one another and to discuss Jesus' relationship with Simon Peter.
- *Remember that kids this age are at various levels in their ability to grasp abstract concepts and that you are not expected to have all the answers.
- *Today you will need a pencil, paper, and a Connect Bible.
- *It is just as important for youth to get to know mentors as it is for mentors to get to know youth. Both mentor and student should answer the questions for one another.
- *Neither person should be made to feel that they should share more than they are comfortable sharing.
- *You do not need to make sure you have answered every question listed below. They are provided merely as a way to guide your discussion. Neither should you feel limited to these questions.
- *You will not be reporting answers to anyone. If it is helpful to write answers or take notes, feel free to do so knowing that it is not necessary.
- *Please take a moment to pray together at the beginning of your time together. You may pray your own prayer or use the following (spoken by one person or both together).

Almighty God, you inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus as the Messiah and Son of the living God. Keep your church firm on the rock of this faith, so that in unity and peace we may proclaim one truth and follow one Lord, your Son, Jesus our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Prayer of the Day, Confession of St. Peter, January 18)

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Check in

- *Check in about any events that have happened the last time you met and what you are each looking forward to in the coming weeks.
- *Each person share a high and a low (something good and something no-so-good that happened) from the previous week.

VIDEO

- *What surprised you about the video? About Peter?
- *Describe a time that you felt "blockheaded" like Peter.
 - Where was God in that experience?
 - How did you learn from that experience?

BIBLE

*Read Matthew 14:22-33.

- How do you think Peter felt after he and Jesus got back into the boat? What might he have been thinking?
- Share one or more fears you have. How can your relationship with God help you to face those fears?
- Complete the activity at the bottom of page 1091 in the Connect Bible.

*Read Matthew 16:13-20.

- The Greek word *petros* means “rock.”
- What do you think Jesus meant by calling Peter the rock on which he would build the church?
- How would you have responded if Jesus said that to you?

*Read Matthew 16:21-25.

- What do you think Peter was thinking and feeling as he heard Jesus talk about the suffering he would face? After Jesus reprimanded him?

*Read John 13:36-38.

- In John 13 Jesus shares a last meal and washes the feet of the disciples – an act of loving service – before he is arrested.

*Read John 18:15-18, 25-27.

- In John 18 Jesus is arrested and later sentenced to death.
- Why do you think Peter denied knowing Jesus?
- What do you think you might have done if you were in Peter’s situation?

*Read John 21:15-19.

- In John 21 Jesus appears to his disciples after he has been raised from the dead.
- Why do you think Jesus asked Peter 3 times if he loved him?
- What do you think Jesus meant by “Feed my sheep”?

FURTHER DISCUSSION

*With what part of Peter’s story do you most connect? Why?

*Just as Jesus called Peter to be his disciple, so he calls you too. In what ways do you live as a follower of Jesus at this point in your life?