

# **Peter: Journey from A Fisherman to An Apostle**

*Learnings from Life of Peter*



## This Module

We will have 4 sessions

1. Peter's aggressive / impulsive nature
2. Peter's submissive nature and Peter's faith
3. Gift of Spirit in Peter
4. The first preacher to Gentiles; Peter's preparedness for God's work

## Learnings from last session

- ✓ Peter's aggressive/impulsive nature- The negative side
- ✓ Peter's aggressive/impulsive nature- The negative side
- ✓ The aggressive/ impulsive coefficient within us has large power but it is up to us how we are using it.
- ✓ If we use this nature with our own wisdom and knowledge, we will end up in mess.
- ✓ If we can surrender this quality to Holy Spirit completely, God can use it to save crowds through us.

Channelizing the power given to us through the help of Holy Spirit is key in Christian life.

## Peter's Submissive Nature

- ✓ The true submissive nature in Peter's life, which made him disciple of Jesus Christ and an Apostle
- ✓ How can be an aggressive/impulsive person can have submissive nature also?

**But Peter has submissive nature**

## Peter's Submissive Nature

### The incident in Luke 5:1-11

- Peter went to fishing and they couldn't get anything fished whole night.
- Jesus sat in Peter's boat and asks him to put out into deep waters and down their nets for a catch.
- Vs 5 <sup>5</sup> Simon replied, "Master, we worked hard all night [to the point of exhaustion] and caught nothing [in our nets], but at Your word I will [do as you say and] lower the nets [again]."

## Peter's Submissive Nature

- Proverbs 3:6 says In **all your ways know *and* acknowledge *and* recognize Him**, And He will make your paths straight *and* smooth [removing obstacles that block your way].
- Peter showed complete submission to the Lord and they caught fish in two full boats and the boats began to sink.
- When we keep Him first and obey in all our acts to him, he will bless us with abundance that we cannot hold.

## Peter's Submissive Nature

### **Peter kneel down in front of Jesus and confessed**

- ✓ But when Simon Peter saw this, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!".
- ✓ Jesus said to Simon, "Have no fear; from now on you will be catching men!"

## Peter's Submissive Nature

The promise realized in Acts

- When Peter preached, 3000 and 5000 people got saved.
- How come this happened? Just because of Peter's submission to Holy Spirit.
- We belong to heaven so, focus on things above but not below (Colossians 3:2).
- Set your mind *and* **keep focused *habitually* on the things above** [the heavenly things], not on things that are on the earth [which have only temporal value].



## Peter's Submissive Nature

The other incident in John 21:1-19 after resurrection  
√ Jesus appeared to his disciples where about 7  
disciples including three inner circle disciples were led  
to fishing again by Peter

√ Jesus commanded in Luke 22:31-34 or John 18:10

√ “Simon, Simon (Peter), listen! Satan has  
demanded permission to sift [all of] you like grain; but  
I have prayed [especially] for you [Peter], that your  
faith [and confidence in Me] may not fail; and you,  
**once you have turned back again [to  
Me], strengthen and support your brothers [in the  
faith].”**

## Peter's Submissive Nature

- √ Again, the disciples couldn't catch any fish whole night
- √ Jesus appeared them and told to go into deep and down their nets. Again, they got huge catch of fish.
- √ Jesus asked Peter 3 times same question "Do you Love me".
- √ Vs 17 says, Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."
- √ Jesus made Peter to confess his sin and guilt and made him realized his mission.
- √ Peter surrendered himself completely to Jesus and confessed God's sovereignty.

## Take Home

- √Submit to the sovereign authority of God in all our acts.
- √Complete submission to God is straight way to show our love and devotion to God.

## Peter's Faith

Faith is central pillar of Christian walk.

Hebrews 11:1 says Now **faith is the assurance (title deed, confirmation) of things hoped for (divinely guaranteed), and the evidence of things not seen** [the conviction of their reality—faith comprehends as fact what cannot be experienced by the physical senses].

# Peter's Faith

## Peter walking on water

- ✓ The incident of Jesus walking on water is mentioned in 3 gospels, Matthew 14:22-33, Mark 6:45-52, John 6:16-21 but only Matthew mentioned about Peter walking on water.
- ✓ Then Peter asked Jesus (Matthew 14:28-31)
- ✓ *"Lord, if it is [really] You, command me to come to You on the water." He said, "**Come!**" So Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw [the effects of] the wind, he was frightened, and he began to sink, and he cried out, "**Lord, save me!**" Immediately Jesus extended His hand and caught him, saying to him, "**O you of little faith, why did you doubt?**"*
- ✓ As Jesus commanded, he walked on water.
- ✓ Stepping out of boat in the middle of the sea when the boat is being battered by waves needs **an extra degree of faith and courage for sure.**

## Peter's Faith

**Peter healing touch over born lame man at beautiful gate**

Acts 3:1-10

Vs 6-7 But Peter said, **“Silver and gold I do not have; but what I do have I give to you:** In the name (authority, power) of Jesus Christ the Nazarene—[begin now to] walk and go on walking!”. Then he **seized the man’s right hand with a firm grip and raised him up.**

Vs10 and they recognized him as the very man who usually sat begging for coins at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and amazement and were mystified at what had happened to him.

## Peter's Faith

- √We can move mountains by having faith of about mustard seed size (Matthew 17:20-21).
- √We can see faith in both Gifts of Spirit (I Corinthians 12:7–11) and Fruit of Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). What is the difference?
- √Having **Faith** as fruit of Spirit, we can see miracles in our lives-*Peter walking on water*
- √Having **Faith** as gift of Spirit, we can move mountains-*Peter healing the born lame man*

## Peter's Faith

- ✓ Practicing faith in our daily lives in each and every step, will bring a big change in our Christian walk/attitude.
- ✓ Remember one thing, nothing comes to us without God's permission and/or our permission into our lives But He is with us at every point of life.
- ✓ Scripture says, even mother can forget her child but I will not leave you/forsake you. (Condition apply: If we are aligned to God's word).



## Peter's Faith

### Peter sleeping peacefully in the prison (Acts 12:1-19)

- ✓ Herod [Agrippa I] arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to harm them and **he put to death James** with a sword. When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to have Peter arrested as well.
- ✓ When he had seized Peter, he put him in prison, turning him over to **four squads of soldiers of four each to guard him [in rotation throughout the night]**, planning after the Passover to bring him out before the people [for execution].
- ✓ **The very night before Herod was to bring him forward, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers**, bound with two chains, and sentries were in front of the door guarding the prison.

**How can a person sleep in this situation?**

**That's because of faith in God**

## Peter's Faith

### The other aspect is faith in God's word

In John 21:18-19 Jesus mentioned about Peter's death.

*I assure you and most solemnly say to you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and walked wherever you wished; but **when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and arms, and someone else will dress you, and carry you where you do not wish to go.*** Now **He said this to indicate the kind of death** by which Peter would glorify God.

- ✓ The same Peter who denied Jesus words earlier (Matthew 26:31-35), is now completely trusting him.
- ✓ The same Peter who was impulsive and challenged Jesus words, he became peaceful and sleeping in prison just at the gates of death.

# Learnings

- ✓ God expects from us to completely surrender and wholly devoted. When we submit to God, He uses us/our lives for his glory.
- ✓ We belong to heaven so, focus on things above but not on earth
- ✓ Complete submission to God is straight and simple way to show our love and devotion to God
- ✓ Faith is central pillar of Christian Walk. By faith we can break bondages of our life, be peaceful in storms and by faith we can move mountains.
- ✓ Remember one thing, nothing comes to us without God's permission and/or our permission into our lives
- ✓ He is with us at every point of life. Scripture says, even mother can forget her child but I will not leave you/forsake you.



**Praise the Lord**