



Small Group Study Guide

PETER

*A FLAWED, YET FAITHFUL
FOLLOWER OF JESUS*

September 6, 2020
"The Rest of
the Story"

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, sometimes it's hard to be bold when it comes to sharing our faith with others. Would you give us courage and grant us boldness to live our lives in such a way that people see your love in and through us. And to the best of our ability, as you empower us, may we actually walk the talk. So help us to speak up and help us to recognize opportunities to be witnesses in your name. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE:

Acts 5:27-32 (NIV)

²⁷ The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. ²⁸ "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood."

²⁹ Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings! ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. ³¹ God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. ³² We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."



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INTRODUCTION

After the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, Peter went on to minister for 34 more years. During this period of time, Peter became fearless in his faith, he continued to learn about God, and he left an amazing legacy. The same person who once denied knowing Jesus was crucified for being a follower of Jesus. What can we learn from Peter's life after Jesus?

Peter's ministry after the ascension of Jesus was marked with boldness, not secrecy. Rather than being a safe believer, he looked for opportunities to be bold. That's where God showed up. So, be bold. Speak up. Take advantage of opportunities God gives you. Create opportunities to be bold. And be a part of the difference Christ can make in people's lives. Then you too will create a legacy like Peter.

QUESTIONS

- 1) Why is it easier to practice "safe" Christianity? How do you know when being "bold" becomes over-the-top?
- 2) In what situations could you be bolder in saying something when it would be easier to say nothing at all?
- 3) In what situations could you be bolder in taking advantage of existing opportunities? In what situations could you be bolder in creating new opportunities?
- 4) How do you continue to learn and grow in your faith?
- 5) What mark will you have left on the world when you leave? What will your legacy be?

FINAL APPLICATION

We are responsible for handing off the church to the next generation. We need to keep the movement moving and create more followers of Jesus. So, be bold. Speak up. Take advantage of opportunities God gives you. Create opportunities to be bold. And be a part of the difference Christ can make in people's lives.