



# THE WAY OF THE CROSS

## Sermon Discussion Questions

Matthew 26:69-75 // Jesus Denied

- When have you been in a situation that seemed like a good idea but you later regretted? What led you to that point, and what brought you to your senses?
- Pastor Jeff took us through a progression of mistakes and bad choices that led Peter to deny Jesus – starting with not listening to Jesus (16:30-31) and refusing to believe he was capable of falling away (26:33-35). What leads us to ignore God's warnings? Are there things God warns us about in the Bible that you think could never be a danger or temptation for you? Why is that?
- Peter didn't think he needed to call out to God in prayer and ask for his strength for what he was facing (26:36-45). What situations, relationships, or circumstances do you feel like you don't need to pray about? When have you felt very clearly that you needed God's help? What is the difference between those situations? Why don't we feel the need to pray more often?
- Peter followed Jesus at a distance (26: 57-58). Like all the disciples, Peter was afraid of being arrested and condemned with Jesus. But keeping Jesus at a distance meant he was drawing back from the one person who was supposed to be the center of Peter's life. When have you kept God at a distance because of fear of others or a desire to do something you know God wouldn't approve? What's the danger in keeping God at a distance in our lives?
- Peter ended up in a courtyard full of Jesus' enemies, seeking their approval (26:69-74). How has the desire for others' approval led you to say or do things you knew were wrong – or maybe keep silent when you had an opportunity to talk about Jesus?
- As you reflect on Peter's failures (and maybe some of your own), how does that make you feel – convicted, embarrassed, needy, more committed to follow Jesus? Remind yourself that Jesus knows your needs and failures better than you do, that he loves you and died for those failures, and that he lives to help you and strengthen you!



**FAITH  
CHURCH**