

LIFE OF
PETER

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FALL 2020

Course Goals

- To understand the scope and source of Peter's character transformation
- To imitate Peter's growth in Christ-like character
- To prepare to defend a scriptural view of Peter's role and authority in the early church

Schedule of Lessons

Date	Lesson
Sunday, Sept 20	1 – Meeting the Master
Wednesday, Sept 23	2 – A Weekend with Jesus
Sunday, Sept 27	3 – Peter Among the Apostles
Wednesday, Sept 30	4 – Who Jesus Is and What He Came to Do
Sunday, Oct 4	5 – Peter at the Transfiguration
Wednesday, Oct 7	6 – The Last Supper and Crucifixion
Sunday, Oct 11	7 – Begotten Again by the Resurrection
Wednesday, Oct 14	8 – Using the Keys to the Kingdom
Sunday, Oct 18	9 – Confronting the Jewish Leadership
Wednesday, Oct 21	10 – Preaching in Judea and Samaria
Sunday, Oct 25	11 – Preaching to Gentiles
Wednesday, Oct 28	12 – Peter's Sufferings
Sunday, Nov 1	13 – Peter on Suffering and False Teaching

Lesson 9

Confronting the Jewish Leadership**Objectives**

- Describe the differences between the Apostles' first and second arraignments before the Sanhedrin
- Explain the significance of the Apostles' quotation of Psalm 2 in their prayer in Acts 4

Introductory Notes

Acts 2 found Peter preaching the first gospel sermon in Jerusalem leading to the beginning of the church. The church has apparently had several weeks—even months—of growth without persecution. The events of Acts 3 spark opposition from Jewish officials, especially Sadducees.

Text Questions

1. The Healing, **Acts 3:1-11**
 - a. What two apostles went to the temple together? Who led in the healing?
 - b. What verses show that:
 - i. The man's ailment was permanent?
 - ii. The man's ailment was paralyzing?
 - iii. The man was well-known? (See also **3:16**)
 - iv. The man had no "faith to be healed"?
 - v. The man's healing was instant?
 - vi. The man's healing was complete? (See also **3:16**)
 - c. What was the reaction of the people?
2. The Sermon, **Acts 3:11-26**
 - a. What verses in Peter's first sermon (Acts 2) are very similar to statements in vv.13-15?
 - b. What verse in Acts 2 is similar to **Acts 3:19**?
 - c. What prophets does Peter mention here who were not mentioned in Acts 2?
3. The Sequel, **Acts 4:1-22**
 - a. What sect led the persecution? Why (v.2)?
 - b. Did the arrest of Peter and John prevent converts?
 - c. Were Peter and John questioned, or charged with wrongdoing?
 - d. What charges did Peter make against the rulers?

- e. Why did the boldness of Peter and John surprise the council?
- f. Why did the council not deny the miracle?
- g. What did they do to prevent further spread of the gospel?
- h. What was Peter's response?
- i. When they returned to their brethren, for what did they pray (**4:29**)?
- j. What did they do (**4:31**)?

4. The Second Arraignment, **Acts 5:12-42**

- a. What prompted the second confrontation with the Jewish leadership, vv.12-18?
- b. Were the Apostles questioned, or charged with wrongdoing? What were they?
- c. Who replied? What did he say?
- d. What punishment did the apostles suffer?
- e. What effect did this punishment have on their preaching?

Thought Questions

1. Read **Psalm 2** alongside the apostles' prayer in **Acts 4:24-30**. What connections do you see between the apostles' requests in vv.27-30 and the parts of Psalm 2 that they did not explicitly quote?
2. How does Peter's statement in **Acts 5:29-32** compare with his sermons in chapters 2 and 3? What content is shared? What is different about this presentation? Why do you think it is different?