

CHRIST'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

The Gospel of John: The Deity and Teaching of Jesus Christ

"Truth on Trial and Faith Under Pressure"

John 18:19-27 NKJV

[19] The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine. [20] Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing. [21] Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed they know what I said." [22] And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, "Do You answer the high priest like that?" [23] Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?" [24] Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. [25] Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, "You are not also one of His disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not!" [26] One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?" [27] Peter then denied again; and immediately a rooster crowed.

Main Points

1. Jesus Questioned—but Standing in Truth: *Christ remains faithful to truth even when falsely accused and mistreated.*
2. Peter Pressured—and Denying Christ: *Fear and distance from Christ lead to spiritual compromise and denial.*
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Instruction (2 Tim 3:16): What is God telling me?

Inspiration (Romans 8:16): How is the Holy Spirit moving me?

Imitator of Christ (Ephesians 5:1): How will I serve God by imitating Jesus?

My prayer this week: Father, thank you for your faithfulness and your truth. I pray Lord that you help us stand in truth like Christ, and not shrink back in fear like Peter. Strengthen us when our faith is weak and keep us close to You under pressure. Thank You that even when we fail, Your grace remains faithful and Your Word remains true. We give thanks in Jesus' name, amen.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does Jesus' response teach us about confronting wrongdoing with both courage and restraint?

2. How does Peter's failure contrast with Jesus' steadfastness under pressure?

3. Jesus emphasized that He taught "openly" and "in secret... said nothing"? What challenge does this present to believers today about consistency in public and private faith?

Bible Reference NKJV

John 7:16 NKJV Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.

Revelation 1:5 NKJV and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

John 14:6 NKJV Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 3:19-21 NKJV And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. [20] For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. [21] But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

Jeremiah 17:9-10 NKJV "The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? [10] I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.

Isaiah 50:6 NKJV I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.

Isaiah 53:3 NKJV He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

John 7:7 NKJV The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil.

John 15:20 NKJV Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

Micah 3:2 NKJV You who hate good and love evil; Who strip the skin from My people, And the flesh from their bones;

1 Peter 2:23 NKJV who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;

Proverbs 15:1 NKJV A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.

1 Peter 2:23 NKJV who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;

John 3:20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

Deuteronomy 19:15 NKJV "By the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established."

Isaiah 53:7 NKJV He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

Acts 2:23 NKJV Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;

Psalms 94:21 NKJV They gather together against the life of the righteous, And condemn innocent blood.

John 19:11 NKJV Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

John 5:22 NKJV For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,

Matthew 10:33 NKJV But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

Proverbs 29:25 NKJV The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

Matthew 26:41 NKJV Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

2 Timothy 2:13 NKJV If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

Numbers 32:23 NKJV But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the LORD; and be sure your sin will find you out.

Mark 4:22 NKJV For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light.

1 Corinthians 10:12 NKJV Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.

Galatians 6:3 NKJV For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

John 13:37-38 NKJV Peter said to Him, "Lord, why can I not follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake." [38] Jesus answered him, "Will you lay down your life for My sake? Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not crow till you have denied Me three times.

Luke 22:60-62 NKJV But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. [61] And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." [62] So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

2 Timothy 2:13 NKJV If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.