



The Denials

John 18:15-18

A. Peter's Three Denials

1. The Easily Avoidable Denial

“Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest’s courtyard, but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the servant girl on duty there and brought Peter in. ‘You aren’t one of this man’s disciples too, are you?’ she asked Peter. He replied, ‘I am not.’” John 18:15-17 (NIV)

2. The F.o.S.O. (Fear of Standing Out) Denial

“Meanwhile, Simon Peter was still standing there, warming himself. So they asked him, ‘You aren’t one of His disciples too, are you?’ He denied it, saying, I am not.” John 18:25 (NIV)

3. The Discipleship Denial

“One of the high priest’s servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, ‘Didn’t I see you with Him in the garden?’ Again, Peter denied it.” John 18:26-27a (NIV)

B. The Rooster Crowed

“And at that moment a rooster began to crow.” John 18:27b (NIV)

1. What does rooster mean in context?

“And straightaway, the cock crew.” John 18:27b (ASV)

2. The rooster proved Jesus to be a prophet.

“Peter saith unto him, ‘Lord, why cannot I follow Thee even now? I will lay down my life for Thee.’ Jesus answereth, ‘Wilt thou lay down thy life for Me? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, the cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.’” John 13:37-38 (ASV)

3. The rooster proved to be our repentance and God’s forgiveness.

“Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken, ‘Before the rooster crows, you will disown Me three times.’ And he went outside and wept bitterly.” Matthew 26:75 (NIV)

“The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered...” Luke 22:61a-b (NIV)

“And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, ‘Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny Me thrice.’ And he went out, and wept bitterly.” Matthew 26:75 (AKJV)

C. The Three Denials in Our Everyday

But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven. Matt 10:33

1. Be courageous in all situations.

“But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. ‘Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.’ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do

this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.” 1 Peter 3:14-16 (NIV)

2. Never say never to God.

“Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.” 1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

3. Do not let the old creep in to the new.

“After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, ‘Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.’ He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, ‘I don’t know this man you’re talking about.’” Mark 14:70b-71 (NIV)

“That, however, is not the way of life you learned when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:20-24 (NIV)

4. Pay attention to your roosters.

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.” Psalm 32:1-2 (NIV)

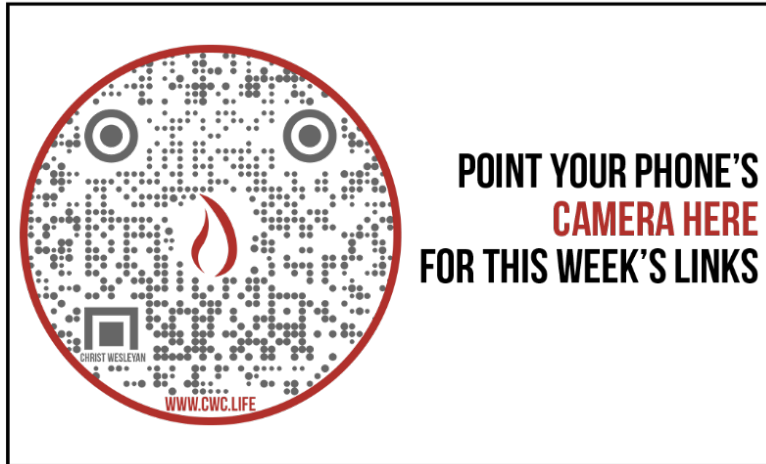
Bottom Line:

We all have roosters for a reason.

To begin a relationship with Jesus...
Text: IChooseJesus (*all one word*) to 570-273-0088

Next Sunday:
Milton Campus: Pastor Branden Mestach
Sunbury Campus: Pastor Mike Sweigard

Week 3: The Miraculous Catch
Peter: Tested. True. Transformed.
A deep dive look at the life of St. Peter.



Giving & Attendance Update

Giving last Sunday: 93.2% of goal

Giving year to date: 83.1% of goal

Attendance last Sunday: 2,080

Salvations to date: 205 | Baptisms to date: 110

Upcoming Happenings:

February 20-March 30 – 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting begins.

March 29-31 – Easter Weekend:

Milton Campus

March 29 – Good Friday Service 7p

March 30 – Saturday Night Easter Service 6:00p

March 31 – Easter Sunday 6:30a, 9a and 10:45a

Sunbury Campus:

March 31 – Easter Sunday 9a and 11a

April 7 – Baptism Sunday!

April 7 – Membership Class 12:30p

Notetakers are History Makers