

Living Out the “Peter Principles”

New Life Lessons
June 13th & 14th, 2015
Pastor Ron Salsbury

Day One – Read Acts 9:32-43.

When you think of the journey of Simon, the simple, Jewish fisherman from Galilee becoming Peter, the powerful pioneer missionary to Samaria, does it give you hope that Jesus can help us become “history makers” ourselves?

Pray and ask God to continue to make you more and more effective in your life as a “missionary.” We are all called to reach lost people. Ask the Holy Spirit to cleanse and fill and use you for the glory of God.

Day Two – Read Acts 9:32-43; Matthew 10:1; 18:18-20 and Luke 10:1-9.

How confident are you in prayer? *Asking* is certainly a part of a healthy prayer life. What about “speaking to the mountain?” Are there “mountains” in your life you need to speak to?

Pray – Ask God to help you grow in your confidence in prayer. Ask him to show you the mountains in your life that need to be removed. Now pray in Jesus name that they will be removed!

Day Three – Read Acts 1:8; 9:42-43; Matthew 28:18-20

When you think of the expanding circles of the growing church, what “ripple effects” do you see in your life? Who are the people God has used to reach you? Who are the people you think God might want to reach through you? Are there unreached groups of people that you are a part of? Think of yourself as a “pioneer missionary” to those people!

Pray - Ask God to give you insight, compassion and boldness to reach these people. Ask God to give you “open doors” of opportunity and conversation. Then, be ready (1 Peter 3:15) to share your story!

“Too Hot to Handle”

A .D. Series #11

Acts 9:32-43; 1:8; Colossians 3:17

Acts 9:32-43 (NIV) ³² As Peter traveled about the country, he went to visit the saints in Lydda. ³³ There he found a man named Aeneas, a paralytic who had been bedridden for eight years. ³⁴ “Aeneas,” Peter said to him, “Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and take care of your mat.” Immediately Aeneas got up. ³⁵ All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

³⁶ In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷ About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸ Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, “Please come at once!”

³⁹ Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰ Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, “Tabitha, get up.” She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called the believers and the widows and presented her to them alive.

⁴² This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

After describing Saul’s amazing conversion, Luke focuses again on the ministry of Peter. As a medical doctor, Luke would have had a unique perspective on his miracles. As a “pioneer missionary,” Peter would reach beyond tradition.

God's Preparation of Simon Peter

- ***Simon, the Seasoned Fisherman***
- ***Simon, the Natural Leader***
- ***Peter, the Reluctant Learner***
- ***Peter, the Humbled Failure***
- ***Peter, the Restored & Recommissioned Servant***
- ***Peter, the Pioneer Missionary***

Lessons from Peter in Samaria

1. Peter was Focused on Ministry .

Acts 9:32 (NIV) ³² As Peter traveled about the country, **he went to visit the saints in Lydda.** Acts 9:36

Acts 1:8 (NIV) ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and **you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and **Samaria**, and to the ends of the earth." Matthew 15:24-28; John 4:9

Colossians 3:17 (NIV) ¹⁷ **Whatever you do**, whether in word or deed, **do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. Peter Prayed with Confidence .

Acts 9:33-34 (NIV) ³³ There he found a man named Aeneas, a paralytic who had been bedridden for eight years. ³⁴ **"Aeneas,"** Peter said to him, **"Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and take care of your mat."** Immediately Aeneas got up. Matthew 10:1; Luke 10:1-9; Matthew 18:18-20

Acts 9:40 (NIV) ⁴⁰ Peter sent them all out of the room; **then he got down on his knees and prayed.** Turning toward the dead woman, he said, **"Tabitha, get up."** She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. Mark 6:4-6

Matthew 17:20b (NIV) ^{20b} I tell you the truth, **if you have faith** as small as a mustard seed, **you can say to this mountain**, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you. Luke 18:27

3. Peter was Led by The Holy Spirit .

Acts 9:42-43 (NIV) ⁴² (Tabitha's resurrection) became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon. Leviticus 11:24-25; 17:15-16; John 14:12

Galatians 5:25b (NIV) ^{25b} Let us **keep in step with the Spirit.**