

Family Theme | **Lessons From the Life of Peter** Date | **July 5, 2026**
 Study Text | **Matthew 16:13-18 and other Scripture**

Read the Word: Matthew 16:13-18

Disciple Your Family: Discuss putting life lessons from Peter into action.

Discuss the following Key Events and Life Lessons. Use the questions to spark discussion.



Key Event: Peter's Journey With Jesus (Luke 5:1-11; Matthew 14:22-33; 16:13-18; 17:1-8)

LIFE LESSON 1: Like Peter, bow in awe of Jesus and make following Him your first priority.

- *What did Peter see about Jesus in that moment that caused him to fall at His feet? What about Jesus still calls for that same response from us today?*
- *How can we tell if Jesus is truly our priority rather than just an important part of our lives?*

LIFE LESSON 2: Stay focused on Jesus, not your fears.

- *What does this passage teach us about how fear affects faith?*
- *Why is it often easier to step out in faith than to keep walking in faith?*

LIFE LESSON 3: Stand firm on the truth that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the Living God.

- *Peter declared Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Why is this truth vital to the Christian faith? Why is this truth under attack?*
- *Why does the identity of Jesus determine everything about Christianity?*

LIFE LESSON 4: Listen to and obey Jesus. He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, God's Son.

- *What competes with Jesus' voice in our lives today?*
- *What spiritual habits help us listen well?*



Key Event: Peter's Denial of Jesus (Luke 22:31-34, 54-62)

LIFE LESSON 5: Prepare now to stand firm when pressure comes.

- *Why do you think Peter was so confident before the denial?*
- *Why is private faithfulness essential for public courage?*



Key Event: Peter's Return to Jesus (John 21:1-19)

LIFE LESSON 6: When you fall into sin, confess your failures and seek God's restoration.

- *What keeps some people from returning to Jesus after failure? How does God restore us after times of weakness or failure?*



Key Event: Peter's Service for Jesus (Acts 1:15–26; 2:14–41; 10:1–48)

LIFE LESSON 7: Use the gifts and abilities God gives you to serve Him.

- What gifts or experiences has God uniquely given you? Where might God be calling you to step into greater service?
- What gives you hope in Peter's story—especially knowing how he failed?

Build a Foundation: Discussion questions for elementary students.

- What are some moments that helped grow Peter's faith in Jesus? (traveling with Jesus and seeing His work, walking to Jesus in the storm, Peter's restoration after he denied knowing Jesus three times)
- What can you learn from Peter's example about not letting your lack of faith keep you from serving Jesus?
- What does Hebrews 11:6 teach you about the importance of faith?

Work together to memorize the Verse of the Month: **Hebrews 11:6**



Discuss this week's Building Block:

God wants everyone to be saved (2 Peter 3:9).

Everyday Extras:

Use permanent markers or paint and have family members write the word FAITH on a medium-sized rock and decorate it. As family members are working on their rocks, connect it to the new name Jesus gave Simon. The new name, Peter, means "rock." Jesus knew Peter's faith would grow strong like a rock. Discuss how Peter's actions didn't always demonstrate strong faith. But as the Holy Spirit filled him, his faith grew and became stronger. Let family members use their rocks to remind themselves to continue to grow and strengthen their faith.

Preschool Highlights

Today your child began learning what Jesus taught in the Lord's Prayer. Jesus wanted His friends and us to know when we are praying, we are talking to the one true God. **Jesus Teaches Me to Pray** and ask God for the things He wants me to have, even if it's not what I want. I can also ask God to give me my daily bread—the things I need each day to live well and make right choices for Him (Matthew 6:9–11).