



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

**Ice Breaker:** When you go on a warm weather vacation in the middle of winter, do you hope the weather is really cold and snowy when you're away, or do you not pay attention to the weather back home?

**Instructions:** If your group meets bi-weekly, answer 3 & 4.

1. Read Matthew 26:31-35. Pastor Tom uses this Scripture to illustrate a "never" moment the disciples had. Explain what a "never" moment is? What was the disciple's "never" moment? What was Peter's "never" moment? Has anyone in your group experienced a never moment? Take a moment to discuss what those moments were.
2. Despite all that was going on in Jesus' life at the time, He was there to witness Peter's "never" moment. Read Luke 22:61-62 to discover how Jesus helped Peter through this moment. What did Peter see in Jesus' eyes? What was Peter's reaction to this? What does Peter's reaction say about his faith? What do we have to do to get through our "never" moments? Read John 3:17, 1 Corinthians 11:32 and 1 John 4:16, based on these verses, what kind of look should we expect to receive from Jesus?
3. Read Luke 22:31-32, these verses demonstrate that God is on our side. How do these verses show this? Pastor Tom said, "Failure is real and its tentacles can reach deeper and longer than we imagine, but failure is not more powerful than God . . . because He is God, His plan goes through failure." How do our failures affect His plan for us? Why should we turn back to God? How were you able to turn back to God after failing?
4. Jesus tells Peter, in Luke 22:32 that after he has turned back he should strengthen his brothers. How did Peter do this? Pastor Tom said, "There are people who NEED you, your story, and your experience". How can you strengthen your brother? Discuss ways that you can begin to be there for others, tell your story to others, and share your experience with others. Remember one or two of your ideas and try to act on them throughout the week. Take a moment at the beginning of your small group next week to discuss some of the results.

## PERSONAL GUIDE FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>

**DAY 1 – Read Matthew 26:31-35.** Peter had a major blind spot which is highlighted in this passage. How might you recognize similar blind spots in your own life?

**DAY 2 – Read Luke 22:31-34.** How does Jesus care for Peter in this interaction? How does this effect your understanding of how He cares for you?

**DAY 3 – Read Luke 22:54-62.** What can be learned from Peter's failure here?

**DAY 4 – Read John 3:16-21.** How does life in the light help us move forward in forgiveness?

**DAY 5 - Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-32.** How is personal reflection helpful to our spiritual lives?

MOUNTAIN-TOP  
SUNDAYS

ROCK-BOTTOM  
MONDAYS

DEVELOPING A ROCK-SOLID FAITH

MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP  
DISCUSSION // PERSONAL GUIDES

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2017



## “Never Saw That Coming” [Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

### MESSAGE NOTES

...real \_\_\_\_\_...is often far messier, difficult, and challenging than we think it should be.

Real faith in our real lives includes moments of doubt, seasons of struggles, and how to \_\_\_\_\_ the spiritual disciplines of life we would have never chosen for ourselves that God uses in His spiritual growth plan (Part 2) to make us more like Jesus.

There are “\_\_\_\_\_” moments of life that real faith confronts us with.

We need to understand how faith helps us to navigate these “T\_\_\_\_\_ Moments” in our lives.

### 1. I Never \_\_\_\_\_ That Coming

*Note Matthew 26:31-35*

Real faith has to face the \_\_\_\_\_ about the icebergs of failure.

Sometimes your faith is going to \_\_\_\_\_ with something that will shake you to the core of your being.

Real faith means living in a world where we face \_\_\_\_\_ (external and internal) and we struggle with our weaknesses and failures.

So what do you do when you face “\_\_\_\_\_”...?

### 2. What to do When You \_\_\_\_\_ with an Iceberg of Failure

**Note Luke 22:54-60**

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ at Jesus (*note Luke 22:61*) - “full of grace and \_\_\_\_\_” (*John 1:14*). So what did Peter see in Jesus’ eyes? Not c \_\_\_\_\_ (*note John 3:17*) - but was a look of \_\_\_\_\_ (*note 1 Corinthians 11:32*); and also a look of \_\_\_\_\_ (*note John 3:16; 1 John 4:16 = “God is \_\_\_\_\_”*). \_\_\_\_\_ your eyes on Jesus (*Hebrews 12:2a*) and look for His grace, love and truth (all are n \_\_\_\_\_).

- B. Be \_\_\_\_\_ (*note Luke 22:62*) - instead of casting blame at others, \_\_\_\_\_ up in anger, or making excuses/justifying himself, these honest tears over his failure mean Peter is \_\_\_\_\_ it and being real about it.
- C. Turn \_\_\_\_\_ (*note Luke 22:31-32*) - there are f \_\_\_\_\_ in life. But that doesn’t mean that \_\_\_\_\_ has failed you. Failure is real and its \_\_\_\_\_ can reach deeper and longer than we imagine—but failure is not more p \_\_\_\_\_ than God...because He is God, His \_\_\_\_\_ goes through failures. *Note John 6:68*.
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ others (*note Luke 22:32b and Matthew 26:35*) - there are people who NEED you, your \_\_\_\_\_, and your experience.

*Mountain-Top Sundays and Rock-Bottom Mondays:*

- Real faith helps you to face the \_\_\_\_\_ about our “Titanic moments”...
- ...and \_\_\_\_\_ where to turn when you face those things you never saw coming.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use the connect card to let us know about your commitment, too!



**“Never Saw That Coming”**  
**Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor**

**MESSAGE NOTES**

...real faith...is often far messier, difficult, and challenging than we think it should be

Real faith in our real lives includes moments of doubt, seasons of struggles, and how to choose the spiritual disciplines of life we would have never chosen for ourselves that God uses in His spiritual growth plan (Part 2) to make us more like Jesus.

There are “never” moments of life that real faith confronts us with.

We need to understand how faith helps us to navigate these “Titanic Moments” in our lives.

1. I Never Saw That Coming

Note Matthew 26:31-35

Real faith has to face the truth about the icebergs of failure.

Sometimes your faith is going collide with something that will shake you to the core of your being.

Real faith means living in a world where we face evil (external and internal) and we struggle with our weaknesses and failures.

So what do you do when you face “never”...?

2. What to do When You Collide with an Iceberg of Failure

Note Luke 22:54-60

- A. Look at Jesus (note Luke 22:61) – “full of grace and truth” (John 1:14). So what did Peter see in Jesus’ eyes? Not condemnation (note John 3:17) – but was a look of truth (note 1 Corinthians 11:32); and also a look of grace (note John 3:16; 1 John 4:16 = “God is love”). Lock your eyes on Jesus (note Hebrews 12:2a) and look for His grace, love, and truth (all are necessary).
- B. Be real (note Luke 22:62) – instead of casting blame at others, blowing up in anger, or making excuses/justifying himself, these honest tears over his failure mean Peter is owning it and being real about it.
- C. Turn back (note Luke 22:31-32) – there are failures in life. But that doesn’t mean that God has failed you. Failure is real and its tentacles can reach deeper and longer than we imagine – but failure is not more powerful than God...because He is God, His plan goes through failures. Note John 6:68.
- D. Help others (note Luke 22:32b and Matthew 26:35) – there are people who NEED you, your story, and your experience.

*Mountain-Top Sundays and Rock-Bottom Mondays:*

- Real faith helps you to face the truth about our “Titanic moments”...
- ...and learn where to turn when you face those things you never saw coming.

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