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June 14, 2020

Recalculating: When Plans Change When My Actions Change My Plans

Matthew 26:31–35 (HCSB)

*Then Jesus said to them, “Tonight all of you will run away because of Me, for it is written: **I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.**”³² But after I have been resurrected, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.”*

³³ Peter told Him, “Even if everyone runs away because of You, I will never run away!”³⁴ “I assure you,” Jesus said to him, “tonight, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times!”³⁵ “Even if I have to die with You,” Peter told Him, “I will never deny You!” And all the disciples said the same thing.

Matthew 26:69–75 (HCSB)

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant approached him and she said, “You were with Jesus the Galilean too.”⁷⁰ But he denied it in front of everyone: “I don’t know what you’re talking about!”⁷¹ When he had gone out to the gateway, another woman saw him and told those who were there, “This man was with Jesus the Nazarene!”⁷² And again he denied it with an oath, “I don’t know the man!”⁷³ After a little while those standing there approached and said to Peter, “You certainly are one of them, since even your accent gives you away.”⁷⁴ Then he started to curse and to swear with an oath, “I do not know the man!” Immediately a rooster crowed,⁷⁵ and Peter remembered the words Jesus had spoken, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.

1. JESUS KNOWS OUR _____ BEFORE WE ARE WILLING TO ADMIT IT vv 31-32

- Jesus _____ us more than we understand ourselves.
- Jesus knew what was coming and how it would affect His disciples.

2. _____ CAN LEAD TO FAILURE vv 33-35

Proverbs 16:18 (HCSB)

Pride comes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall.

- Make sure your mouth doesn’t write checks your _____ can’t cover.
- Peter boasted:
 - From his true love of Jesus.
 - From his reliance on his own strength.
 - From his lack of self-awareness and understanding of what was about to come.

3. SIN AND DISOBEDIENCE ARE NEVER _____ FROM EVEN THE MOST FAITHFUL vv 69-74

- We may think we are above sin, but it’s always lurking around the corner.
- Every one of us has the _____ to disobey God.

4. WE CAN BE USED AGAIN BY GOD WHEN WE _____ OVER-CONFIDENCE WITH HUMILITY AND REPENTANCE v 75

- Genuine _____ brings God’s forgiveness.
- God can use us even if we have messed up.

The Next Step:

Confess your sins to God and follow His plan.