A Look from Jesus (Conviction & Redemption)

I. Introduction

- A. Ever got "the look."
- 1. From a parent.
- 2. From a spouse.
- B. Communication happens beyond words and print.
 - 1. Body language.
- 2. Tone, inflection.
- C. That's why text and e-mail are such poor substitutes for real communication.
- II. Scripture: Luke 22:55-62
- A. After Mark and before John in the NT.

III. Background

- A. At the last supper, Jesus had warned Peter he would deny Jesus 3 times.
- 1. Peter protested.
- 2. Luke 22:33 "Lord, I am ready to go with you to both to prison and to death."
- 3. v. 34 "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me."
- B. Judas' betrayal.
 - 1. He brings soldiers to the intimate place of prayer.
 - 2. The disciples have not prayed, but slept.
- C. Now Jesus is taken, at night, to an illegal trial.

IV. Peter's Fall

- A. This was a hard fall for Peter.
- B. Look at the process leading to his fall...
 - #1. He fell even though he was warned.
 - #2. He slept in Gethsemane when he should have been praying.
- #3. He followed from a distance/afar. (v. 54b)
- #4. He warmed himself at the wrong fire/wrong crowd.
- #5. He openly denied Christ.
- #6. He cursed himself and swore. (Matthew 26:74)

V. Peter's Conviction

- A. *In a divine moment* of clarity, the cock crowed and Peter locked eyes with Jesus.
 - 1. This "look" is only mentioned in Luke.
 - 2. It wasn't a close, deep look into his eyes.
 - 3. It was probably from across the courtyard
 - 4. It was convicting.
- B. I'm sure the succession of events leading to this denial/fall scrolled through Peter's mind.
- C. This look was...
 - 1. ...a convicting look.
 - 2. ...a disappointed look.
 - 3. ...a look of pain.
 - 4. ...a redemptive look.
- D. Jesus is doing all He can to

- keep people out of Hell.
- E. **Note:** There is a kind of pain that brings healing.
 - 1. Medically. "Just relax."
 - 2. Parenting. Dealing with the hard stuff.
 - 3. Academically. Studying before the test.
- F. <u>Point</u>: Discomfort was not the goal; even then, redemption was the goal.

VI. Peter's Response

- A. What does conviction feel like?
 - 1. Exposed.
 - 2. Awkward.
- B. Ill. Ever advocated for a certain opinion for a long period of time and suddenly realized you were wrong?
 - 1. No? Me neither!
- C. <u>Note</u>: Prodigal son "came to himself."
- D. <u>Pastoral Pause</u>: Peter's fall was deferent than Judas' fall.
 - 1. Judas was premeditated, willful, & deliberate.
 - 2. Peter was genuine & sincere when he claimed he would never deny Christ.
 - 3. **Point:** Peter underestimated the power of the carnal nature. A heart not fully surrendered.
- E. Peter's response was 2 fold:
 - 1. "He went out." (Leave the

- context, change.)
- 2. "He wept bitterly." (Real sorrow over broken sin.)
- F. <u>Pastoral Pause</u>: Why is it so easy for us to tell God we're sorry, but not another person?
 - 1. Physical presence?
 - 2. Facing the shame of sin.
 - 3. Restoration of relationship should be hard work (if it is worth anything).
 - 4. There's no easy path there.
- G. **Point:** Facing our failures moves us toward redemption more than hiding from them or denying them.

VII. Peter's Redemption

- A. John 21 Peter's redemption
- B. There was a long period of time between the denial and the conversation by the sea.

VIII. Conclusion

- A. Jesus' look can be uncomfortable, but that's what we need.
- 1. Comfort with the status quo has led us to this place.
 - 2. We need to be redeemed!
 - B. Is He looking at you today?
 - C. Don't stay the same!

Response: