

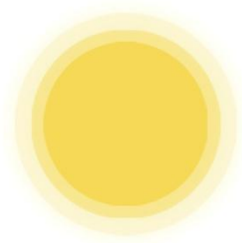
Lent...Preparing for the Joy of Easter (Resurrection)

# Growing through: Disillusionment and Discovery

*What is Lent?*

[**Lent is** the opportunity to prepare for the joy of Easter...  
growing through reflection, repentance, reconciliation,  
and renewal]





Lent...Preparing for the Joy of Easter (Resurrection)

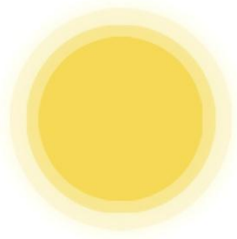
# Growing through: Disillusionment and Discovery

Disillusionment:

- a feeling of disappointment resulting from the discovery that something is not as good as one believed it to be
- *Dis-*
- *Dis-illusion*
- *Dis-illusion-ment*
- to free or deprive of illusion

Discovery: Aha!





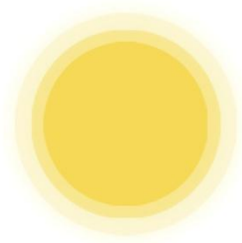
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# Growing through: Disillusionment and Discovery

A Fascinating Example: Why did Peter deny Jesus?

- I don't think it was cowardice, or lack of courage.
- I think it was because of confusion.
  - I think it's because he expected something, and it didn't happen the way he thought or hoped it would.
  - I think he lived with an illusion, and didn't know how to respond when the illusion didn't happen.
- Let's see why.





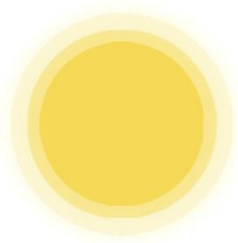
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## Growing through: Disillusionment and Discovery

Let's look at the story of Peter's denial, and what led up to it.

- Matthew 16:13-23, 24-28
- Matthew 17:1-9
- John 13:21-27
- John 13:34-38
- Luke 22:7-8, 14-16, 22-26, 31-34, 38
- Matthew 26:47-54; Luke 22:47-51; John 18:1-11





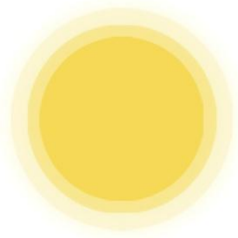
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# Growing through: Disillusionment and Discovery

I think this was Peter's illusion:

- If you're the Son of God, you should not suffer.
- If you are loved of God, you should not suffer.
- If you are powerful, you should conquer.
- The greatest is the greatest, and should be treated that way.
- Certainly, Jesus should not suffer and die!





Lent...Preparing for the Joy of Easter (Resurrection)

## Growing through: Disillusionment and Discovery

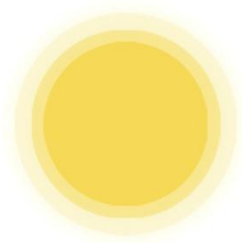
I think this was Peter's discovery – the blessing of dis-illusion-ment:

- In God's way of thinking, resurrection life is the ultimate.
  - Without death, there is no resurrection.
  - For some reason, this is the “law” of God's kingdom.
  - The faith required to let go and trust God, honors God.

I think this was Peter's GREAT DISCOVERY:

- Letting go is possible BECAUSE THERE IS RESURRECTION!





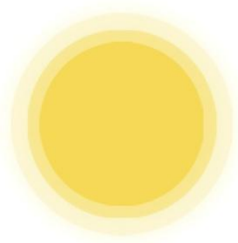
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## Growing through: Letting Go

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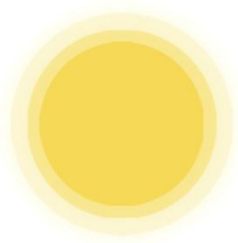
Lent...Preparing for the Joy of Easter (Resurrection)  
**Growing through: Springtime and Harvest**

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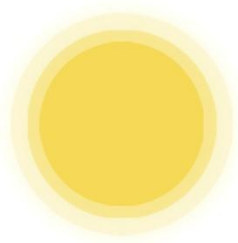


Lent...Preparing for the Joy of Easter (Resurrection)  
**Growing through: Injustice and Forgiveness**

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Lent...Preparing for the Joy of Easter (Resurrection)

# Growing through: Disillusionment and Discovery

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Take time this week to: Reflect, Repent, Reconcile, and Renew  
*(See handout for questions that may help guide you.)*

