

Luke 22:31-34

Praying with Jesus:  
Jesus Prays for You



## Luke 22:31-34

31 “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat; 32 but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” 33 But he said to Him, “Lord, with You I am ready to go both to prison and to death!” 34 And He said, “I say to you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know Me.”

# The Setting

- The Last Supper has ended
- The cross looms large
  - The culmination of His mission is at hand
- His heart is for his Disciples
  - Facing great trials we focus on our selves
  - Christ's focus is for others first

# In the Midst of Testing...

- Peter's Testing
  - His expectations about Jesus shattered
  - His self-confidence shaken
  - His need for grace made apparent to all
- Not unlike Job...
- Not unlike ourselves...

# In the Midst of Failure...

- Inability to keep watch with Christ
- Fleeing arrest in the Garden
- Denial of Christ in the courtyard
- Boasting turned to condemnation
- Deep Regret
- In the midst of failure, Jesus Prayed for Peter

# In the Midst of Crises of Faith...

- Everything in Peter's life was shaken
  - Peter's boasts made him a phony
  - No longer worthy to be a disciple
  - Sifted—all that remained was weakness...
  - Weakness Christ could use
- All that he lost was himself—Christ remained

# To Equip us to Encourage

- Jesus Prayer is not for Peter to avoid testing
  - That Christ would be unshakable
  - That all else would be forsaken
  - Holy result from evil means!
- Peter is very like many of us
  - Our failures are a vehicle for our testimony

- **Jesus is Praying for You!**
  - In the midst of testing...
  - In the midst of crises of faith...
  - In the midst of our failures...
  - Jesus is praying for you