



IMPOSSIBLE

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## Introduction

Title: Impossible Platforms

Text: Mark 14:66-72

Theme: There are platforms that you may assume you could never achieve and are too big for you. Maybe you have made too many mistakes or are unqualified. Jesus takes His most unqualified leader and challenges him to lead the global movement of the church. Right now there may be an opportunity for God to get glory through you and you may be afraid.

## Discussion

Read Mark 14:29-31

Peter adamantly insists that even if all the other disciples desert their Lord, he will not. Peter's response testifies to his love for Jesus as well as his determination to remain faithful no matter what he may encounter.

Read Mark 14:66-72

Three times Peter is given the opportunity to confess his allegiance to Christ and each time he fails. On the third occasion he even refuses to utter Jesus' name, invoking a curse upon himself he declares, "I do not know the man of whom you speak."

1. What do you think accounts for Peter's failure to carry out his promise to be faithful to his Lord?

The attitude we see exemplified in Peter is that of self-confidence. Peter was sincere, but he made two very common and vital mistakes: he overestimated his own ability to stand for Christ in the hour of trial and he underestimated the awful powers aligned against him in the hour of trial. If, like Peter, we rely upon ourselves when confronted with temptation, it will inevitably result in failure. Because of the assorted pressures brought to bear against us in the hour of trial or temptation, we must trust in Christ and rely upon Him if we are to successfully combat temptation.

*"It was not the rooster that convicted Peter; it was the remembrance of Christ's words"*

2. How are you keeping God's words close and reflecting on them daily? Peter is serving as an example of what happens when we forget.
3. How have you responded when confronted by someone who is calling you out for being a person of faith? Have you ever denied Christ for the sake of acceptance by people?

We have all made promises to Jesus that we have not kept; when that is the case, there is an appropriate time to weep bitterly - but then a time to come back to Jesus, who will always receive you back. God often takes the most unqualified to show off His strength to the world.

4. Do you ever feel unqualified to serve Jesus?
  - a. Do you feel called to serve him in a way that seems "out of your league"?
  - b. Pray as a group against fear and doubt. Pray that we would all allow God to get the glory through using us.

## **Additional Reading**

Additional Scriptures on overcoming fear and doubt.

John 20: 24-29

James 1: 5-8

1 Peter 5:6-7