



EASTER PEOPLE

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY

SIF

Suzhou International Fellowship



Capernaum

Bethsaida

SEA OF GALILEE

Seleucia

Korazin

Gamla

Jotapata

Cana

Gennesaret

Magdala

Tiberias

Hippius

Sepphoris

Gath-hepher

Nazareth

Mount Tabor

Nain

Mount Moreh

Gadara

Abila

Yamuk River

Legio

Esdraelon







His Call

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” **At once they left** their nets and followed him.

Matthew 4:18-20

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, “Behold the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus **looked** (*Greek-emblepo*) at him, He said, “**You are** Simon the son of Jonah. **You shall be** called Cephas” (which is translated, A Stone).

John 1:35-37, 40-42

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



- **He calls us as we are, but he sees as we shall be (already are) in Him**

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ**, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here.

2 Cor 5:16-17

But we all, with unveiled faces, beholding as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Cor 3:17-18

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



His Confession

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matt 16:13-19

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



His Rebuke

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “**Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.**” But he turned and said to Peter, “*Get behind me, Satan!* You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, **but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.** For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?”

Matt 16:21-26

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



His Questions/Doubts

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times? *Jesus answered*, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times

Matt 18:21-22

Then Peter said in reply, “See, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?” *Jesus said* to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Matt 19:26

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



Peter said, “Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for all?” *The Lord answered*, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time?”

Luke 12:41-42

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” *Jesus replied*, “You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” “No,” said Peter, “you shall never wash my feet.” *Jesus answered*, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.” “Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!” *Jesus answered*, “Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.”

John 13:6-9

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



- **Our questions and doubts should draw us to Him in whom there's no contradiction**

As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and *richly blesses all who call on him*, for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Rom 10:11-13

Therefore, since we have a **great high priest** who has *ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God*, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may *receive mercy* and *find grace to help* us in **our time of need**.

Heb 4:14-16

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



His Bold Declaration

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but **I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail.** And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” Peter said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death.” Jesus said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me.”

Luke 22:31-34

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, *‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’* But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” Peter answered him, “Though they all fall away because of you, **I will never fall away.**” Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him, “**Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!**” And all the disciples said the same.

Matt 26:30-35

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



His Denial

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, "This man also was with him." **But he denied it**, saying, "**Woman, I do not know him.**" And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "**Man, I am not.**" And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean." But Peter said, "**Man, I do not know what you are talking about.**" And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and **looked** (*Greek-emblepo*) at Peter. *And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord*, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Luke 22:54-62

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. The servant girl at the door said to Peter, “You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

John 18:15-18

The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.” When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?”

John 18:19-23

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



- **We are not changed by the promises we make to God, we are changed by remembering and believing in His promises to us.**

By which have been given us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:4

Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and restraint and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

Romans 2:4

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



Restoration and Commission

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I *love* you.” He said to him, “**Feed my lambs.**” He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you *love* me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I *love* you.” He said to him, “**Tend my sheep.**” He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I *love* you.” Jesus said to him, “**Feed my sheep.** Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “**Follow me.**”

John 21:15-19

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.

Acts 2:14

And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.” Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about **three thousand souls were added to them.**

Acts 2:40-41

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



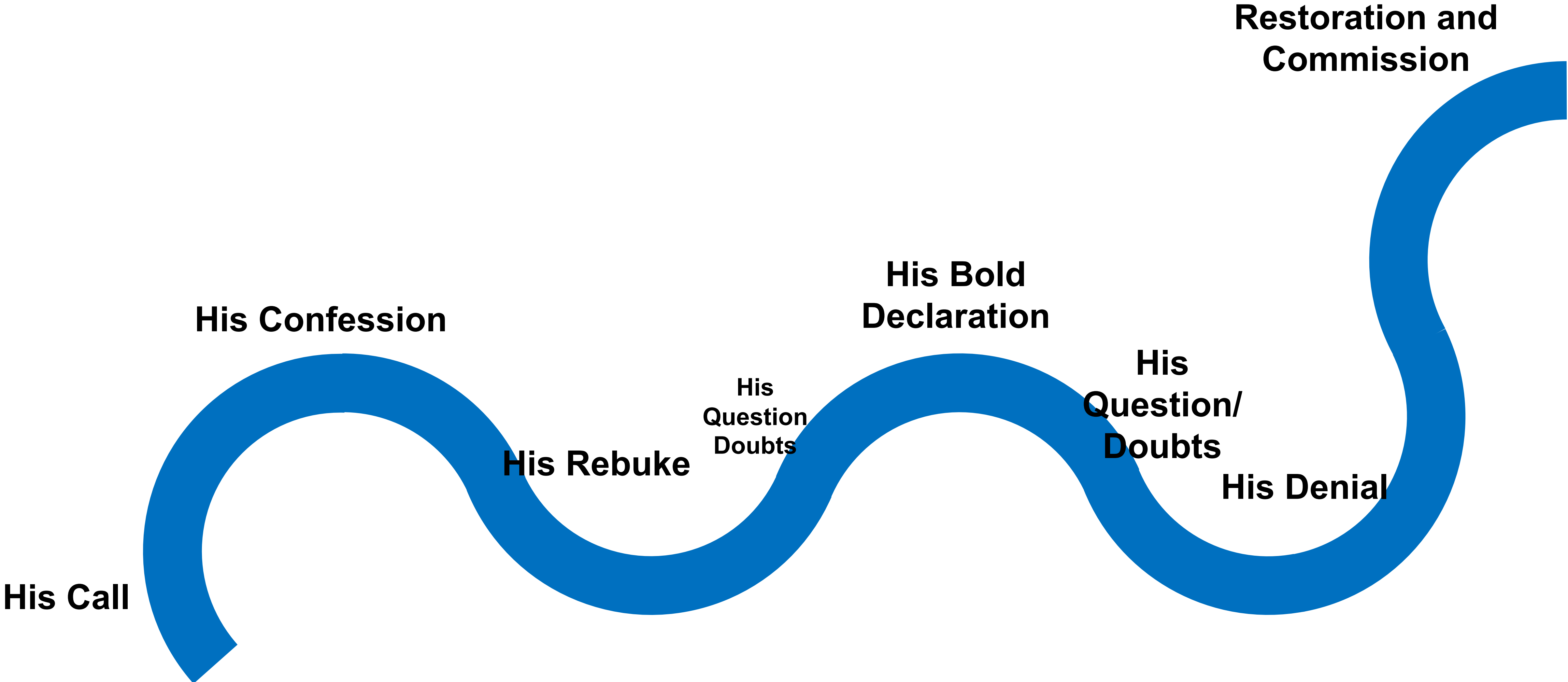
- **We cannot out-love God! We love only because He first loved us.**

We love because he first loved us. 1 John 4:9

ORDINARY PEOPLE | EXTRAORDINARY STORY



You have hedged me behind...



...and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Psalm 139:5