



# Are There Spiritual Strikeouts?

MATTHEW 26:30-35, 69-75

DO YOU HEAR  
WHAT I HEAR?

## I. Jesus knows us better than we know \_\_\_\_\_.

*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. vv. 30-35*

BASE YOUR BELIEF AND BEHAVIOR on what \_\_\_\_\_ says rather than what you think and feel.

## II. Jesus knows our private commitments will be \_\_\_\_\_ in public.

*Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." And again he denied it with an oath: "I do not know the man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. vv. 69-75*

### TEMPTATION ESCALATION

1. unexpected
2. repeated
3. unrelenting

STAY CLOSE TO YOUR SHEPHERD who can \_\_\_\_\_ you through valley of the shadow of death.

DO YOU HEAR  
WHAT I HEAR?

You are fully known,  
and still fully loved,  
forgiven and accepted  
by \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Why might it be foolish to begin a sentence with the words, "I would never ..."?

## FOR THIS WEEK

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE:

**Matthew 26:34**

*Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times."*

JOURNAL:

**Matthew 26:30-35, 69-75**

"As He prepared to die for the sins of the world, Jesus needed to teach the disciples the need of continually dying to themselves of never trusting in themselves. ... As the disciples soon learned that last night with their Lord, without His help faithfulness to Him is impossible. Like many believers, they foolishly mistook their good intentions for strength. They thought their ability to handle temptation and intimidation was greater than it was.... That is a lesson every child of God needs to learn and relearn. Because it is not difficult to stand firm in doctrine and moral standards when we are among fellow Christians, we are tempted to think we would never desert our Lord by compromising those truths and standards. But when we are out in the unbelieving world and are separated from the strength of Christian fellowship, we discover how unfounded such self-confidence is."

JOHN MACARTHUR

2. Read Matthew 26:30-35, 69-75. When Peter disagreed with the Lord, how was this actually the beginning of his sin of denying Him? Why?

3. Why is our own human willpower inadequate to keep us from sinning?

4. What do you learn about God from the fact that Jesus did not yell at His disciples or disown them, even though He knew how they would abandon Him?

5. In what particular situation(s) coming up in the next week do you need to make it clear that you are a follower of Jesus Christ?

## JOURNAL Matthew 26:30-35, 69-75

How have you experienced the "TEMPTATION ESCALATION" talked about in the sermon? In what ways was the temptation

1. unexpected?
2. repeated?
3. unrelenting?

How can you turn away from the habit of trying to handle temptation on your own and rely on the Holy Spirit to strengthen you instead?

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events).

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** Thank you, Christ Chapel, for spreading the joy of Jesus to children around the world this Christmas season. Today is your last day to bring back a shoebox! During the service times, we will be collecting in the Garden Room and then between 2-7 p.m. in the lower level of the parking garage. Learn more about drop-off locations and times by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/occ](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/occ).

**WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS BRUNCH** The Christmas Brunch is here again! Get ready for all the joys that come with celebrating the birth of Jesus. Special friends, beautiful tables, great food and an encouraging Christmas message await us. Bring your friends and relatives, too! We can't wait to celebrate and worship together. Hosted at the Will Rogers Round Up Inn on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 10 a.m. - noon. Purchase tickets by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/brunch](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/brunch).

**OPERATION ZIP CODE** Christ Chapel is partnering with Freedom Shield Foundation to distribute thousands of meals to families in need in Tarrant County. This holiday season, they will also be hosting a surprise toy drive! Come be a part of this special event on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Jacquet Middle School. To sign up, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/zipcode](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/zipcode).

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA** A beautiful service full of music and Scripture celebrating the coming of our King, the Christmas Cantata is an opportunity to start the Christmas season with the entire Christ Chapel family. If you aren't able to join us in person, make plans to worship through the live broadcast! Services will be Saturday, Dec. 3, at 5 and 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 4, at 9 and 11 a.m. Learn more and find reservation reminders by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/cantata](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/cantata).

**NEXT GEN EXPERIENCE** Wonder what your kids are doing each Sunday? The Next Gen Experience is a perfect opportunity to see behind the scenes of a typical Sunday in Kids Ministry! Join us Sunday, Dec. 4 at 9:15 a.m. Register by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/kids](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/kids).

**AVENEW** From dating and engaged couples to newly married, AVENEW is where you will receive a biblical framework of marriage and learn more about walking out God's design and purpose for you in marriage. Sundays, starting Jan. 8, from 5 to 6 p.m. You can sign up and learn more by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/avenew](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/avenew).

**THERE'S A JOB FOR YOU** From facilities and worship to students and creative, every role at Christ Chapel makes it possible for us to make much of Jesus! We want to invite you into a conversation about being a part of our team today. Visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/jobs](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/jobs) to get started.



**LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE.** The process is quick and easy—text CCBCFW to 833-422-7200 to get started.