

Look at the following discomforts in Peter's life:

On the mountain.

Luke 9:33-Passion

33 As Moses and Elijah were about to return to heaven, ***Peter impetuously blurted out, "Master, this is amazing to see the three of you together! Why don't we stay here in the glory and set up three shelters: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah?"***

Out of the boat.

Matthew 14:29-31-NLT

29 "Yes, come," Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus.
30 But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, ***he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted.***
31 Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt Me?"

Outside the courtyard.

Matthew 26:73-NLT

73 A little later some of the other bystanders came over to Peter and said, "You must be one of them; we can tell by your Galilean accent."
74 Peter swore, "A curse on me if I'm lying—I don't know the man!" And immediately the rooster crowed.
75 Suddenly, Jesus' words flashed through Peter's mind: "Before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you even know Me." ***And he went away, weeping bitterly.***

Ephesians 2:8-10-ERV

8 I mean that you have been saved by grace because you believed. You did not save yourselves; it was a gift from God.
9 You are not saved ***by the things you have done***, so there is nothing to boast about.
10 ***God has made us what we are.*** In Christ Jesus, God made us new people so that we would spend our lives doing the good things he had already planned for us to do.

A LEADER IN THE MAKING.

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Luke 6:13-16-NLT

13 At daybreak He called together all of His disciples and chose twelve of them to be apostles. Here are their names:
14 Simon (whom He named Peter), Andrew (Peter's brother), James, John, Philip, Bartholomew,
15 Matthew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (who was called the zealot),
16 Judas (son of James), Judas Iscariot (who later betrayed Him).

In the life of Peter, a single truth is observed about his leadership: you have to give up, to go up, and to grow up!

To lead or be used in the kingdom of God, we must give up some things in order to go up and grow up!

1. Self-_____ – (excessive awareness of oneself, one's appearance, or one's actions...)

1Corinthians 4:4-AMP

4 I am ***not conscious*** of anything ***against myself***, and ***I feel blameless***; but I am not vindicated and acquitted before God on that account. ***It is the Lord [Himself] Who examines and judges me.***

Peter had to learn that his life was not to be _____ but by _____.

Matthew 16:18-AMP

18 And I tell you, you are Peter [Greek, Petros--a large piece of rock], and on this rock [Greek, petra--a huge rock like Gibraltar] I will build My church, and the gates of Hades (the powers of the infernal region) shall not overpower it [*or be strong to its detriment or hold out against it*].

2. Self-_____ - a feeling of trust in one's abilities, qualities, and judgment.

Proverbs 3:26-GW

26 The ***LORD will be your confidence***. He will keep your foot from getting caught.

Peter was filled with pride and lacked humility. Let's consider at least three examples in the Gospel accounts:

1. When Jesus _____.

John 13:6-8-AMP

6 When He came to Simon Peter, [*Peter*] said to Him, Lord, are my feet to be washed by You? [*Is it for You to wash my feet?*]

7 Jesus said to him, You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later on.

8 Peter said to Him, You shall never wash my feet! Jesus answered him, Unless I wash you, you have no part with (in) Me [*you have no share in companionship with Me*].

2. When Jesus foretold his _____.

Matthew 26:33-34-AMP

33 Peter declared to Him, ***Though they all*** are offended and stumble and fall away because of You [*and distrust and desert You*], ***I will never do so.***

34 Jesus said to him, Solemnly I declare to you, this very night, before a single rooster crows, you will deny and disown Me three times.

3. When Jesus _____ (John 18:10)

John 18:10-AMP

10 Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

1 Peter 5:5b-10-Passion

5b... In every relationship, ***each of you must wrap around yourself the apron of a humble servant.*** Because: God resists you when you are *proud* but multiplies grace and favor when you are humble.

6 If you bow low in God's awesome presence, ***he will eventually exalt you as you leave the timing in his hands.***

7 Pour out all your worries and stress upon him and leave them there, for he always tenderly cares for you.

8 Be well balanced and always alert, because your enemy, the devil, roams around incessantly, like a roaring lion looking for its prey to devour.

9 Take a decisive stand against him and resist his every attack with strong, vigorous faith. For you know that your believing brothers and sisters around the world are experiencing the same kinds of troubles you endure.

10 And then, after your ***brief suffering***, the God of all loving grace, who has called you to share in his eternal glory in Christ, will personally and powerfully restore you and make you stronger than ever. Yes, he will set you firmly in place and build you up.

4. Self-_____ – (engrossed with one's own emotions, interests, or situation.)

Philippians 2:4-AMP

4 Let each of you esteem and look upon and be concerned for not [*merely*] his own interests, but also each ***for the interests of others.***

5 Let this same attitude and purpose and [*humble*] mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus: ***[Let Him be your example in humility]...***

Passion – 4 Abandon every display of selfishness. Possess a greater ***concern for what matters to your friends instead of your own interests.*** 5 And consider the example that Jesus, the Anointed One, has set before us. ***Let his mindset become your motivation.***

John 21:15-19-Passion

15 After they had breakfast, Jesus said to Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you burn with love for me more than these?" Peter answered, "Yes, Lord! You know that I have great affection for you!" "Then take care of my lambs," Jesus said.

16 Jesus repeated his question the second time, "Simon, son of John, do you burn with love for me?" Peter answered, "Yes, my Lord! You know that I have great affection for you!" "Then take care of my sheep," Jesus said.

17 Then Jesus asked him again, "Peter, son of John, do you have great affection for me?" Peter was saddened by being asked the third time and said, "My Lord, you know everything. ***You know that I burn with love for you!***" Jesus replied, "Then feed my lambs!"

18 Peter, listen, when you were younger ***you made your own choices and you went where you pleased.*** But one day when you are old, others will tie you up and escort you where you would not choose to go— and you will spread out your arms."

19 (Jesus said this to Peter as a prophecy of what kind of death he would die, for the glory of God.) And then he said, "Peter, follow me!"

1Peter 4:8-NLT

8 Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, ***for love covers a multitude of sins.***

5. Self-_____ – (the protection of oneself from anything that harms, or may even make you uncomfortable)...