

LOGO w/email

Church APP graphic ... announcement

??-possible slide about elder addition

IMAGE

<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/72/f4/59/72f45966f2a1001b90590baf339d74eb.jpg>

In our navigation through life, our **reactions matter** (often more than we realize!).

### **Matthew 26:44-46**

After leaving them, he went away again and **prayed a third time**, saying the same thing once more. <sup>45</sup> Then He came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still **sleeping and resting**? See, the time is near. The Son of Man is **betrayed** into the hands of sinners. <sup>46</sup> Get up; **let’s go**. See, my betrayer is near.”

### **Matthew 26:47-49**

While He was still speaking, **Judas**, one of the Twelve, suddenly arrived. A large mob with swords and clubs was with him from the chief priests and elders of the people. <sup>48</sup> His betrayer had given them a sign: “The one I kiss, he’s the one; arrest him.” <sup>49</sup> So immediately he went up to Jesus and said, “**Greetings**, Rabbi!” and kissed Him.

### **Matthew 26:50**

“**Friend**,” Jesus asked him, “why have you come?” Then they came up, took hold of Jesus, and **arrested** Him.

### **Shocking Reaction of Jesus:**

- Enemy love to Judas
- Submission to the will of God

### **Matthew 26:51**

At that moment one of those with Jesus (*Peter*) reached out his hand and drew his **sword**. He struck the high priest’s servant (*Malchus*) and **cut off his ear**.

### **Reaction of Peter:**

- Zealous (passionate)
- Ready to fight, defend, assert
  - Via the sword

{One screen ... Peter on one side & Jesus on the other side}

JESUS □—————□PETER

*{one slide}*

What's **controlling** Peter?

- What is the driver (the source) of his reactions?
  - Reactions reveal ...

*{one slide}*

HINT:

- This is usually our explanation, justification, rationale, and/or excuse
- It makes us “feel” like we are right

### Luke 22:51

But Jesus responded, “**No more of this!**” And touching his (*Malchus*) ear, **He healed him.**

*{come up one at a time}*

Jesus clearly expects a different reaction from Peter ... from us.

- This is why follower of Jesus is BETTER than believer in Jesus.
- This is why DISCIPLE of Jesus is BETTER than decision for Jesus.

### Matthew 26:51-54

Then Jesus told him (*Peter*), “**Put your sword back in its place** because all who take up the sword will perish by the sword. <sup>53</sup> Or do you think that I cannot call on My Father, and He will provide Me here and now with more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup> How, then, would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it **must happen this way?**”

In our navigation through life, our **reactions** matter!

1) **Corrections** we need to receive:

- a) **Initial** reactions (gut, instinct, impulse) are often **wrong**.
- b) Goal is not to be horizontally **right** or win a horizontal **fight**.
- c) God is never **not in control** (even if it looks otherwise).
- d) **Spiritual warfare** is different than we realize ...

Spiritual warfare is not so much what happens TO us but rather the attempt THROUGH what happens to us to get us to take our eyes off Jesus ...

2) The **example** we need to set:

### Matthew 26:55-56a

At that time Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out with **swords and clubs**, as if I were a criminal, to capture me? Every day I used to sit, teaching in the temple, and you didn't arrest me. <sup>56</sup> But all this has happened so that the writings of the prophets would be **fulfilled.**”

Peter acts more like the **crowd** than a **Christian**.

God does not need us to **defend** Him but rather, **trust** Him and **represent** Him

3) The **authority** we need to access:

World & Authority: possessions & position

Jesus & Authority: **submission-based** authority

- Submitted to God's will & His Word
  - *"Not my will but Your will be done"*

4) The **weapon** we need to fight with—

**Ephesians 6:17-18 (NLT)**

Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God**.

<sup>18</sup> Pray **in the Spirit** at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

With a **sword**, Peter was willing to take on a small army but he could not stay awake to **pray** with Jesus.

- Adrenaline faith vs Abide with Jesus faith

With his sword, Peter made a mess.

**Acts 2:37-38 (NLT)**

Peter's words **pierced their hearts**, and they said to him and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, "Each of you must **repent** of your sins and **turn** to God, and **be baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

5) The **secret** we need to know:

**Matthew 26:44-45**

After leaving them, **He went away again and prayed a third time**, saying the same thing once more. <sup>45</sup> Then He came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? See, the time is near.

**Matthew 26:56b**

... Then **all** the disciples deserted Him and ran away.

Their reactions in the moment were products of what happened and did not happen prior to the moment.

- They abandoned Jesus relationally & spiritually before they abandoned Him physically.

Today's **reactions** reflect yesterday's **choices**.

Understand the **momentum** of past choices.

**Matthew 26:56b**

... Then **all** the disciples deserted Him and ran away.

Receive the power of **present grace**.

Receive the grace of God to **heal**, to **start** new today and to **seed** a better tomorrow!