



CONVERSATION STARTERS

MARCH 11, 2018

This is a guide to help start a conversation about this week's message. Feel free to pick, choose, re-order and adapt as you see fit. You know your group best and can facilitate their experience by modifying as necessary.

ICE-BREAKER

1. Did everyone get a copy of the [Dinner Table Communion Guide](#) that was handed out at the end of this week's service? Has anyone tried it? If so, how'd it go? How has your experience of the Lord's Supper grown or changed during this series?
2. Can you think of a time when you didn't live up to your own expectations or dropped the ball in some way? Or more specifically, have you ever bragged that you could/would (or would *never*) do something, only to crumble under pressure? E.g. On a test, in a course at school, at a job interview, on a first date, trying a home or car repair, falling victim to a sappy TV series, etc. Share about these experiences. How do these experiences change the expectations we place on ourselves?

REVIEW

1. You may want to watch this week's message with your group as a refresher. Or, try picking a spot with 10-15 minutes to go to review the main application(s). Messages are found at southridgechurch.ca/messages.
2. Feel free to try one or two of these. What did you hear in this week's message? What ideas stood out? What did you agree with? Disagree with? What questions came to mind? How did it make you feel?
3. Feel free to review this week's story of Peter's denial of Jesus in [Matthew 26:31-35](#) & [69-75](#).

REFLECT

1. When it comes to faith and spirituality, where do you feel the strongest pressures of expectation? From self? From the church? From your family? From your friendship circle? From society? How so?
2. Which dynamic of Peter's character struggles do you relate to most? The bravado and desire to impress others? The inconsistency between well-meaning intentions and real-life actions? The spirit of denial in not wanting to expose your weaknesses? The sense of fragility and failure for not living up to expectations?

RESPOND

1. Like Peter, where have you fallen short of expectations recently? Where do you need a second chance? In a relationship? At work? With a bad habit or addiction? In your faith? With your family? With Jesus? As comfortable, share about these situations with each other.
2. Read the words of Jesus from [2 Corinthians 12:9-10](#), "*My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.*" Take time to pray for one another, thanking God for the grace of second chances.