

# Readings

## Scripture

<sup>36</sup> Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." <sup>37</sup> Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." <sup>38</sup> Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.

- John 13:36-38 (English Standard Version)

## Reflection

You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?

- Matthew 5:13 (English Standard Version)

For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

- Matthew 5:46-47 (English Standard Version)

Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

- Matthew 6:25-33 (English Standard Version)

# Sermon Outline

## Where are you going?

John 13:36-38

*Table Talk in an Upper Room*

Brad Anderson

*The dialogue created by questions and answers exposes us to the deeper purposes of God.* (John 13:36-68)

### What does Jesus reveal through this Q and A with Peter?

#### A Protest: "Where are you going?" (John 13:36-38)

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#### A Path: "Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." (John 13:36-38)

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#### A Prophecy: "Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times." (John 13:36-38)

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### Reflection Questions (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- Describe how questions have affected your life and invited personal reflection. What was the most insightful question you have ever been asked by a friend? What question, asked by Jesus, do you remember the most?
- What is different between the betrayal of Judas and the denial by Peter?
- What does Jesus mean when he says, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward"? (see John 21:18-19)
- How do you think Peter felt when Jesus made the prediction in verse 38?
- How would you compare your own spiritual "good intentions" to Simon Peter's?
- What does the gospel reveal about our weakness?