A photograph of a sandy beach with several footprints. The footprints are arranged in a path that starts from the top left and moves towards the bottom right. The sand is a light brown color, and the footprints are dark, suggesting they were made in wet sand. The text "Footprints of Peter" is overlaid in the center of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Footprints of Peter

# Footprints of Peter

- Πέτρος Petros; died AD 64 or 67, also known as Simon Peter, one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ.
- The son of John (or Jonah or Jona), he was from the village of Bethsaida in Galilee. His brother Andrew was also an apostle.
- Peter was originally a fisherman, along with his brother Andrew and the sons of Zebedee, James and John.

# Footprints of Peter

- He was called to be an apostle early in Christ's ministry from among His disciples, and is the first one named, possibly the eldest
- He was with Jesus during events witnessed by only himself, James and John, such as the Transfiguration and the Garden prayers.
- Peter was the first apostle to confess Jesus as the Messiah, and was the first to deny Him openly
- He was the first to preach baptism into Christ on the day of Pentecost, and the first apostle to unintentionally divide the church over race.

# Footprints of Peter

- Peter's original name was Shimon or Simeon (Simon in modern English)
- He was later given the name Peter, a name derived πέτρα (petra) the feminine form of stone.
- His name in Aramaic: Šim'ōn Kêfâ. The Syriac or Aramaic word for stone is kepha, which in Greek became Cephas (Greek: Κηφᾶς) and Kepha (Hebrew: כִּפָּי). Both Cephas and Kepha also mean stone
- Scholar Rudolf Pesch states that the Aramaic cepha means “stone, ball, clump, clew” and that petros means “small stone, firestone, sling stone, moving boulder”

# Footprints of Peter

- Jesus called Simon and his brother Andrew to be “fishers of men” - Matt. 4:18-19; Mark 1:16-17
- Peter owned the boat that Jesus used to preach to the multitudes who were pressing on Him at the shore of Lake Gennesaret - Luke 5:3
- Jesus amazes Simon and his companions James and John (Andrew is not mentioned) by telling them to lower their nets, whereupon they catch a huge number of fish. Immediately after this, they follow Him - Luke 5:4-11
- Peter returns to fishing for a time after the resurrection of Jesus - John 21:3

# Footprints of Peter

- The Synoptic Gospels all recount how Peter's mother-in-law was healed by Jesus at their home in Capernaum - Matt. 8:14-17; Mark 1:29-31; Luke 4:38, which, coupled with 1Cor. 9:5, clearly depict Peter as a married man.
- His wife is unknown in the scriptures, but in Eastern traditions is known as Febronia.

# Footprints of Peter

- Peter walked on water for a moment - Matt. 14:28-31
- Peter is called the apostle of little faith, by Jesus - Matt. 14:31
- Peter refused to let Jesus wash his feet, but later changed his mind - John 13:2-11
- When Jesus was arrested, Peter cut off the ear of a servant of the High Priest - John 18:10
- Peter is the first person to enter the empty tomb - John 20:1-9
- Peter was the first to see the risen Christ - 1Cor. 15:5

# Footprints of Peter

- Peter had the special charge of being apostle to the Jews, just as Paul was apostle to the Gentiles - Gal. 2:7
- Peter took lead in selecting a replacement for Judas Iscariot - Acts 1:15
- He was twice arrested with John and brought before the Sanhedrin - Acts 4:7-22, 5:18-42
- He undertook missionary journeys to Lydda, Joppa, Caesarea, and Antioch - Acts 9:32 - 10:2; and, according to reliable history, northern Egypt and central Assyria
- He might have visited Corinth; a faction of Cephas existed there

# Footprints of Peter

- He was instrumental in bringing the gospel to the Gentiles for the first time - Acts 10-11
- Peter was put into prison by King Herod, but was rescued by an angel - Acts 12
- He is believed to have continued to mentor Mark after Paul
- Peter He wrote two books of the New Testament, 1 & 2 Peter.
- Several other books bear his name: the Acts of Peter, Gospel of Peter, Preaching of Peter, Apocalypse of Peter, and Judgment of Peter, but are universally rejected as apocryphal.

# Footprints of Peter

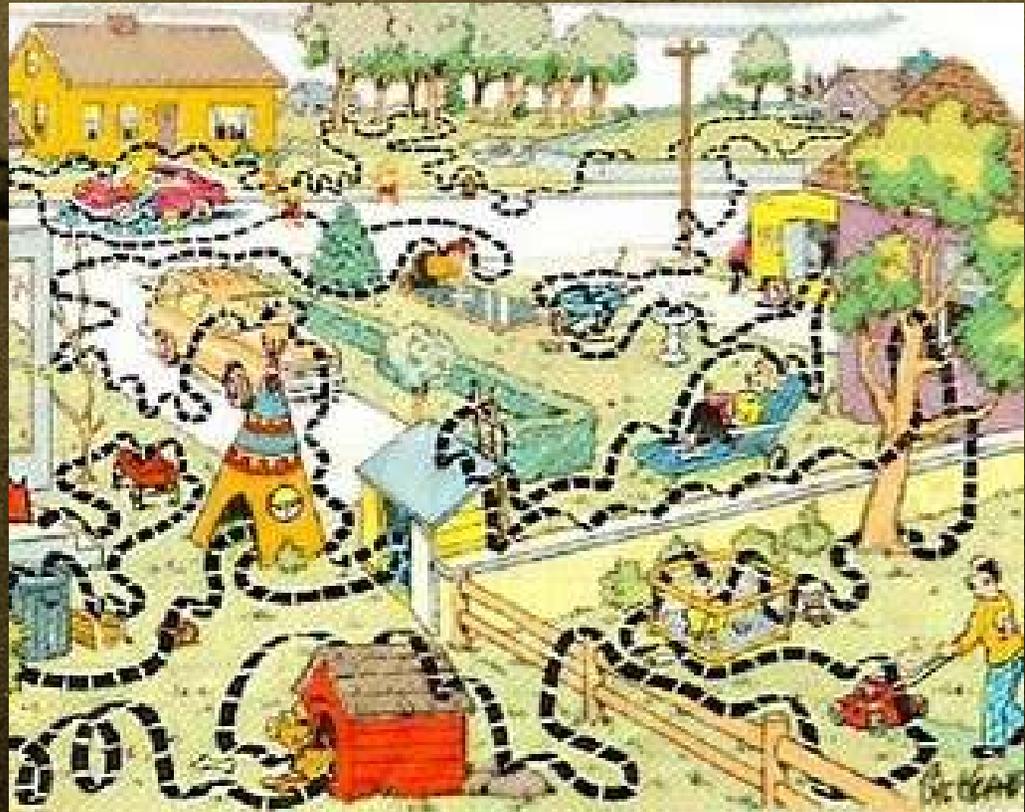
- Jesus spoke of the death by which Peter would glorify God - John 21:18-19
- Peter is said to have been crucified in Rome under Emperor Nero.
- It is traditionally believed that he was crucified upside down at his own request, since he saw himself unworthy to be crucified in the same way as Jesus Christ.

# Footprints of Peter

- Clement of Rome, in his Letter to the Corinthians, written 80–98 AD, speaks of Peter's martyrdom in the following eulogistic terms: “Let us take the noble examples of our own generation. Through jealousy and envy, the greatest and most just pillars of the Church were persecuted, and came even unto death. Peter, through unjust envy, endured not one or two but many labors, and at last, having delivered his testimony, departed unto the place of glory due to him.”

# Footprints of Peter

- Often we find ourselves walking in the footprints of Peter instead of Jesus
- I have often said that I wish I could be more like Paul, but end up acting like Peter



# Peter Steps Away From God

- Self-confidence

- Luke 22:33 - “But he said to Him, Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death.”
- 1Cor. 10:12 - “Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.”

# Peter Steps Away From God

- Relaxation

- Luke 22:44-46 - “And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. 45 When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. 46 Then He said to them, Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation.”
- Amos 6:1 - “Woe to you who are at ease in Zion”

# Peter Steps Away From God

- Desertion

- Matt. 26:56 - "But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled."
- Luke 22:54 - "Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house. But Peter followed at a distance."

# Peter Steps Away From God

- Bad company
  - Luke 22:55 - “Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.”
  - Psalm 1:1 - “Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful”
  - 1Cor. 15:33 - “Do not be deceived: Evil company corrupts good habits.”

# Peter Steps Away From God

- Denial and profanity

- Luke 22:56-60 - “And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, This man was also with Him. 57 But he denied Him, saying, Woman, I do not know Him. 58 And after a little while another saw him and said, You also are of them. But Peter said, Man, I am not! 59 Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean. 60 But Peter said, Man, I do not know what you are saying! Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.”
- Matt. 26:74 - “Then he began to curse and swear, saying, I do not know the Man! Immediately a rooster crowed.”

# Peter Steps Back Toward God

- Remembered

- Luke 22:61 - “And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.”
- Rev. 3:3 - “Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.”

# Peter Steps Back Toward God

- He went out and grieved because he had sinned
  - Luke 22:62 - “So Peter went out and wept bitterly.”
  - Mark 14:72 - “A second time the rooster crowed. Then Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times. And when he thought about it, he wept.”

# Peter Steps Back Toward God

- He went back to work
  - Luke 22:31-32 - “And the Lord said, Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.”

# Peter Steps Back Toward God

- John 21:15-19 - “So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these? He said to Him, Yes, Lord; You know that I love You. He said to him, Feed My lambs. 16 He said to him again a second time, Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me? He said to Him, Yes, Lord; You know that I love You. He said to him, Tend My sheep. 17 He said to him the third time, Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me? Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, Do you love Me? And he said to Him, Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You. Jesus said to him, Feed My sheep. 18 Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish. 19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, Follow Me.”

# 1John 1:6 - 2:2

- If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. 2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.