



THE DOWNRIVER DISCIPLES PROJECT

offers Fast Bible Facts about the

APOSTLE PETER



Peter was one of the original [twelve Apostles](#) (1) of [Jesus Christ](#) (2). The synoptic Gospels of [Matthew](#) (3), [Mark](#) (4) and [Luke](#) (5) tell us that Peter and his brother, [Andrew](#) (6), were fisherman; [John 1:44](#) discloses they were from Bethsaida. They were the first two ([Matthew 10:2](#)) to be [called by Christ to follow Him](#) (7) ([Matthew 4:18-20](#)).

The [New Testament](#) (8) mentions Peter in over 150 instances. Aside from the [four Gospels](#) (9), he is also mentioned in [Acts of the Apostles](#) (10), [1 Corinthians](#) (11), [Galatians](#) (12), [1 Peter](#) (13) and [2 Peter](#) (14).

Peter's birth name was Simon, but Jesus changed it to Cephas (translates into Peter) ([John 1:42](#)). At times, he is also referred to as Simon Peter ([2 Peter 1:1](#)).

Peter was a leader of the Christian Community ([Acts 2:14](#) and [Galatians 2:7-9](#)).

Peter had a mother-in-law. Jesus healed her when she was sick ([Matthew 8:14-15](#), [Mark 1:29-31](#), [Luke 4:38](#)). See also [1 Corinthians 9:5](#).

When his [faith](#) (15) was strong, Peter walked on water. When he took his eyes off Jesus, he sank and had to be rescued ([Matthew 14:22-36](#)).

Peter declared Jesus as [the Messiah](#) (16), the Son of [God](#) (17) ([Matthew 16:13-19](#)).

At the Last Supper, Peter would (initially) not allow Jesus to wash his feet, but he eventually relented ([John 13:1-17](#)).

As the guards approached to arrest Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, Peter used his sword to strike the high priest's servant, cutting off his ear ([John 18:10](#)). Jesus then performed a [miracle](#) (18) by healing the servant (Malchus).

All four Gospels mention Jesus prophesying during the Last Supper that Peter would deny Him 3 times ([Matthew 26:31-35](#)). Although Peter vehemently rebuked this prediction, it happened ([John 18:15-18](#), [John 18:25](#) and [John 18:26-27](#)).

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After Christ's glorious [Resurrection](#) (19), Peter and John were the first to enter His empty tomb ([John 20:1-9](#)). See also [1 Corinthians 15:5](#).

Peter initiated the action of replacing [Judas Iscariot](#) (20). After lots were cast, Matthias was added to the eleven Apostles ([Acts 1:12-26](#)).

Peter had miraculous healing powers ([Acts 3:1-10](#), [Acts 9:32-35](#)), even raising Tabitha (Dorcas in Greek) from the dead ([Acts 9:36-43](#)).

A God-fearing centurion named Cornelius has a [vision](#) (21) in which God tells him to send for Peter ([Acts 10:1-8](#)).

While having a vision/dream, Peter (once again) denies his Lord 3 times ([Acts 10:9-16](#)) before being [called to preach Christ's message](#) (22) to the Gentiles ([Acts 10:17-48](#)).

According to some Bible scholars, the Gospel of Mark was written from Peter's memories. In [1 Peter 5:13](#), Peter refers to Mark as "my son."

Clash of the Biblical Titans: The [Apostle Paul](#) (23) calls Peter a hypocrite ([Galatians 2:11-21](#)).

Peter was imprisoned and sentenced to death by King Herod when an Angel of the Lord showed up and freed him ([Acts 12:1-19](#)).

In [John 21:18-19](#), Jesus hints at the death by which Peter would later glorify God. Many Church historians have written that Peter was martyred by the Roman emperor, Nero, between 64-67 AD.

Document footnotes are listed on page three.

Modifications are welcome at goodnews@downriverdisciples.com.

FOOTNOTES

- (1) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/twelve-apostles>
- (2) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/jesus-christ>
- (3) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/matthew>
- (4) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/mark>
- (5) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/luke>
- (6) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/apostle-andrew>
- (7) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/discipleship>
- (8) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/new-testament>
- (9) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/the-four-gospels>
- (10) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/acts>
- (11) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/1-corinthians>
- (12) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/galatians>
- (13) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/1-peter>
- (14) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/2-peter>
- (15) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/faith-in-god>
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- (19) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/resurrection-of-jesus>
- (20) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/apostle-judas-iscariot>
- (21) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/visions-of-the-bible>
- (22) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/called-to-evangelize>
- (23) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/ambassador-in-chains>