

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for April 13, 2008**

**Jesus' Trial and Peter's Denials**  
**John 18:15-18**  
**Dale Whitehead**

Jesus' trial: Act 1 (John 18:12-14).

Peter's denials: Act 1 (John 18:15-18).

We learn from John 18:15 that two disciples were following Jesus: one was Peter and the other disciple who was unnamed was most likely the Apostle John.

The other disciples of Jesus had fled (Matthew 26:56).

Though Peter, according to Mark 15:54, was following Jesus from "afar," the Apostle John, according to John 18:15, entered into the court of the high priest with Jesus.

John was so familiar with the doorkeeper that he not only was granted immediate access to the court of the high priest but was also able at a later time to gain access for Peter as well (John 18:16).

When the Apostle John used his influence with the gatekeeper to gain access for Peter into the court of the high priest he was not serving Peter, he was doing Peter a disservice (John 13:36-38).

Peter answered the doorkeeper's question by telling her that he was not a disciple of Christ (John 18:17).

Rather than fleeing from the courtyard of the high priest to a place of safety after his first denial he went over to a charcoal fire and warmed himself alongside the enemies of Christ (John 18:18).

Christians who truly want to protect themselves from sin will flee from spiritual danger (2 Timothy 2:22).

Christians who truly want to protect themselves from sin will pursue those things that will produce a harvest of righteousness (2 Timothy 2:22).

Christians who are aggressively pursuing righteousness will seek as best as they can to read, study, memorize and meditate on the Scriptures (Psalms 119:11).

Christians who are aggressively pursuing righteousness will seek as best as they can to be prayerful (Matthew 26:41).

Christians who are aggressively pursuing righteousness will become closely connected with like-minded believers (Hebrews 10:24).

May we, by the grace of God, flee from those things which might spiritually threaten us while we, at the same time, aggressively pursue those things that will produce a harvest of righteousness.