

**LOVE GOD,  
LOVE PEOPLE,  
SERVE THE WORLD**

welcome to

†† *Abiding Word*  
Church

welcome home

**April 1st & 2nd**

**The Choice  
Denial**



There are all sorts of ways to stay connected @ AWC

# Upcoming Events

## **BAPTISM**

Make it public!

Sign up on your Connections Card!

Easter Weekend April 15/16

Mandatory Class held Saturday  
April 15th @ 10am.

We want to video your testimony!

## **GLOW IN DARK**

## **EASTER EGG HUNT**

Thursday April 13th

6:45pm (Get here on time!)

## **DONATIONS NEEDED**

Jumbo Easter Eggs

Mini Chocolates ( like mini snickers,  
milkway, etc)

Drop off at the church by April 9th

## **GIVE ONLINE ANYTIME**

at our website

[www.abidingwordchurch.org](http://www.abidingwordchurch.org) click  
on the Give button

## **Download Our App!**

**TEXT** amount to **815-566-4181**

## **PARENTS & STUDENTS**

Meet following service April 8/9  
in the youth room for important  
Summer Scream Youth Camp  
information!

## **NEW LIFE GROUP**

Do you love to play Carcassonne?  
If you are interested sign up on  
your Connections Card. More  
information coming soon! This  
group plans on meeting once a  
month!

# Thank you for joining us today!

*Welcome to our worship service!* You can expect today's service to run approximately an hour and 15 minutes.

Whether you're exploring Christianity, struggling with life's difficulties or looking for a church home, we are here to help.

Whether you are new to faith, just coming back to church, or a long time follower of Jesus, we would love to connect with you. It is our hope that you find your time with us engaging and helpful.



# Check out ways to serve and get connected

## **ADOPT A COLLEGE STUDENT**

Like to be a blessing to an outgoing college student next year? Sign up on your connections card or @ Guest Services

## **JOYCE MEYER TRIP**

Sept. 21-23 2017

Sign up on your connections card. Early Bird Registration is \$85.00 due by May 1st

## **TEAM CLASSES**

Sunday April 23rd 4-6pm. Sign up on your connections card. Dinner & childcare provided.

## **PARTNERS IN PLAYTIME & PRAYER**

April 17th 6-7:30pm

Moms & kids 0-4 years old

@ the church in the 4/5 classroom

## **ORANGE KIDS**

Got kids? We'd love to minister to them while you are in service. They will have heaps of fun and learn a lot too! As you enter the building take a left down the hall to our secure children's check in.

## **FIRST LOOK**

Nursery 0-24mo.

2-3 yr.

4-5 yr

## **252 BASICS-1st-5th**

## **XP3 STUDENT MINISTRY**

Envision your students confronted with the awe of a God who is big, mysterious and amazing! Plus a place where they can connect, ask questions, hang out and find friends....

## **FUSION-Yr. 6th-8th**

Meeting Sundays -Doors open @ 9:30am. Service starts @ 10am.

## **LINK-Yr-9th-12th**

Meeting every Sunday from 12:00-2:00pm **Sermon Series-THE CREW**

**Life Groups** are where a big crowd becomes small and real. You'll discover community and grow spiritually. Check out the website or Guest Services for more information.

**Discover what real community looks like & get connected**



# Thank you for joining us!

## Here's how you can stay in touch.

Church service ends *but* life with God and connecting with others has just begun! Check out these ways to continue your adventure with God:

- Meet us at Guest Services! We will answer your questions, give you a free gift and help you connect to life at Abiding Word.
- Facing some challenging circumstances? Find our Prayer Partners in back of the sanctuary.
- Further your journey with Christ by stopping at our Bookstore in the lobby.
- Grow with others and God by joining a Life Group. Look for info on our website or at Guest Services!
- Connect with us on-line through our website, email newsletters, social media or download our church app!

## Love God, Love People, Serve the World!

Rev. Scott D Porter-Lead Pastor

Rev. Terri L Porter-Co-Pastor

### Worship with us:

*Saturdays @ 6pm*

*Sundays @ 10am*

### Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday

9am - 5pm

**815.626.1827**

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Sterling, IL 61081

**Rhema Bible Church**  
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WILLOW CREEK  
ASSOCIATION



Discover more at  
[abidingwordchurch.org](http://abidingwordchurch.org)





# "THE CHOICE: Part 2"

## Simon Peter: Denial

April 1 & 2, 2017

**Mark 3:13-19 (NIV)** Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. 14 He appointed twelve—designating them apostles—that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach 15 and to have authority to drive out demons. 16 These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); 17 James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means Sons of Thunder); 18 Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot 19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

### 4 choices in the life of Peter:

**Q: Are you....Fishing or \_\_\_\_\_?**

**Luke 5:1-11 (NIV)** One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the people crowding around him and listening to the word of God, 2 he saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." 5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." 6 When they had



done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. 7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. 8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" 9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, 10 and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men." 11 So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

## **Second question: Are you...**

### **2. Influenced or Influencing?**

**Matthew 16:13-16 (NIV)** When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" 14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

**1 John 4:4** Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

### **Question 3: Are you...Fearful or \_\_\_\_\_?**

**Luke 22:55-62 (NIV)** But when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. 56 A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him." 57 But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said. 58 A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them. "Man, I am not!" Peter replied. 59 About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean." 60 Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what



you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." 62 And he went outside and wept bitterly.

**John 21:15-17 (NIV)** When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

<sup>16</sup> Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." <sup>17</sup> The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

## **Question 4: Are you...Passive or \_\_\_\_\_?**

**Acts 2:14-18, 36-40 (NIV)** Then Peter stood up with the 11, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: "'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. 36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord



our God will call.” 40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”

## Simon went from being “one who \_\_\_\_\_” to Peter the “one who \_\_\_\_\_”

**James 1:22-25 (NIV)** Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.

## NOTES:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines, typical of notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.