Intro: 15 Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, 16 but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. 17 The servant girl at the door said to Peter, “You also are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” 18 Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

One of the maids of the high priest," says Mark (Mr 14:66). "When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked upon him and said" (Mr 14:67). Luke is more graphic (Lu 22:56) -- She "beheld him as he sat by the fire (literally, 'the light'), and earnestly looked on him (fixed her gaze upon him), and said." "His demeanor and timidity, which must have vividly showed themselves, as it so generally happens, leading to the recognition of him"

I. She was a guard of the Door

a. She had some type of responsibilities to Priest

• Not much is known about this young woman, expect to say that she was a servant (she was a maid) allowed to work in the temple as gate keeper. So, she must have been well respected in getting this position.

° 12 So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. Romans 14:12

b. She didn’t let her condition stop her from serving

• She was a maid (a slave). This may not have been the best position for her in her life, but she was faithful in continuing her commitments and responsibilities to the best of her abilities. Never let your poor conditions stop you from serving others and the Lord.

° 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

II. She knew who Jesus was

a. She may have seen some of His miracles

• How can you not see His miracles and not know that He is God, oh wait, Peter did. After seeing all that the Lord did and all the miracles that were done, even Peter great line “where are we to go you have the keys to eternal life”, and he denied this miracle. This young girl was making Peter choose Pilate or Christ. He chose to deny Christ and therefore choosing Pilate.

° 68 Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, 69 and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.” 70 Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the Twelve? And yet one of you is a devil.” 71 He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the Twelve, was going to betray him. John 6:68-71

b. She may have heard some of His teachings

• At some time, she may have heard Jesus teach about loyalty and that all will forsake Him, and he will die for the sins of man. Peter did. Peter vowed his loyalty before Jesus and Christ told Peter you’re going to deny three time before the rooster crows twice. Judas never denied the teaching of Christ, but Peter did. She was fulfilling a prophecy and didn’t even know it.

° 72 And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept. Mark 14:72

III. She knew who Peter was

a. She, at some time, saw Peter with Jesus

• When you follow Christ People will see it. You can’t hide it. It is so much a part of a Christ Walk, and that we follow Christ so others can see it. When you choose to walk with Christ people are going to notice it.

° 14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Matthew 5:14, 15

b. She didn’t mistake Peter for someone else

• She acknowledges Peter’s relationship with Christ better than what Peter did. There will be a time when your walk will be called out, what will you do. People that will hold your feet to the fire will see Christ in you. You can’t be around Christ and not have Him shine in your life in some way. His light will shine on you, in you, and around you. Peter didn’t want her to see it, but it was truly there.

° 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

IV. She Made Peter choose his loyalty

a. Remember Jesus choose Peter

• Remember we have two kinds of disciples: one, are those that the Lord chose to follow Him and the second are those that choose to follow the Lord on their own. We today fit into this group. Both have one thing in common and that is that they follow the Lord. I don’t know if this young woman was a follower of Christ, but I do know Peter was and chose to reject the call of Christ in his life. Christ chose Peter to serve Him and now it’s time for Peter to choose to serve the Lord in the most horrific time in His life, and he didn’t.

° 14 “Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. 15 And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:14-15

b. Peter didn’t choose to continue to follow Christ

1. She sat beside Peter while in the light

• Some of the closest people to you, that are walking in the light with you, and loves you so much, will hold you accountable while in the light of Christ. There are those who do care about you and will hold your feet to the fire, but one will do more with compassion than those who love you.

° 56 Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, “This man also was with him.” Luke 22:56

2. She looked straight into Peter eyes

• In other words, she went straight to his heart by looking him straight into his eyes. She was not afraid to call him out, but Peter was afraid to be called out and recognized. You see, he said he would die for Christ. And I believe he meant it at first, but reality set in and all of the miracles and teaching of Jesus just didn’t seem that important, than living.

3. This young woman was not afraid to hold Peter accountable

• She started the accountability, then someone else questioned Peter, and then someone else questioned Peter and then that is when he cursed at God, saying he didn’t know Jesus. Then Jesus looked at him with hurt in His eyes. she kept hounding him, she was holding Peter accountable and putting his feet to the fire when he said, “I will die for you Jesus”, and now it was his time to truly do so, he failed.

° 59 And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, “Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean.” 60 But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are talking about.” And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times.” 62 And he went out and wept bitterly. Luke 22:59-62

V. She put Peter’s darkness into the light – “she sat by the fire and fixed her eyes on him and said”

a. Jesus told the disciple that darkness cannot stand the light

• Peter was trying so hard to distant himself from the Lord, he not only denies him, but had to curse to prove he was not nor have been associated with Christ in any way. He not only denied, he not only separated himself from the Lord, but cursed himself into a lie of ever knowing Christ.

° 54 Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house, and Peter was following at a distance. 55 And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. 56 Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, “This man also was with him.” 57 But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” Luke 22:54-57

b. Judas betrayed Christ but Peter out right denied Christ

• Judas never lied about knowing Christ, he never separated himself from Christ, nor did he ever deny even knowing Christ. So, which is worse betraying Christ or denying Christ?

° 32 So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, 33 but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven. Matthew 10:32, 33