

## **REFUSE TO MOVE**

### **STAYING WITH THE FAITH (*Colossians 1:23 NKJV*)**

- An intentional choice - not an automatic process
  1. There are forces pulling against our faith
- Things that can disconnect us from our faith
  1. Environment - people and things that have an adverse effect on our faith
  2. A perceived lack of need - thinking when things are good we don't need God
  3. Distractions and desires that weigh on us (*Luke 21:34 NIV*)
- When Peter moved (*Mark 14:66-72 NKJV*)
  1. Peter had walked with Jesus
  2. Peter found himself in a pressure situation
  3. He moved away from his faith in Jesus - and felt horrible
  4. The good news is that Peter was restored - he came back to who he believed

### **THREE FAITH AREAS TO STAY CONNECTED TO**

- The faith that God is real and real good
  1. Staying close to Him is so worth the effort
- The faith that Jesus is the risen Son of God and loves us (*Galatians 2:20 NKJV*)
  1. This is how we live with our faith in Him
  2. The One who loves us and paid a painfully high price for us
- That we are in covenant relationship with The Almighty God the Creator of the universe
  1. That we are no longer separated from Him - we are His, part of His family

### **HOLDING ON TIGHT TO THE HOPE WE HAVE**

- The hope of change
  1. There is a desire and expectation in us to grow, improve, live better
  2. The change of the new birth is not a finished work (*Philippians 1:6 NKJV*)
- The hope of help
  1. We can expect to not have to face life alone (*Isaiah 41:10 NKJV*)
  2. Things will happen in life and not all of them will be good
- The hope of purpose
  1. There is a longing for a sense of meaning to our life (*Colossians 1:9-10 NIV*)
  2. The good news of the gospel is we have a higher calling