

YOU'RE
NOT
FAR

The text is written in a bold, hand-drawn, black font. The words 'YOU'RE', 'NOT', and 'FAR' are stacked vertically. A horizontal arrow is drawn underneath the word 'NOT', pointing to the right.

Week 6: Fortune-Tellers

Many times, our faith deteriorates as our circumstances deteriorate. When that happens, our faith is quickly overcome by fear, and the future looks dark. The apostle Peter experienced this, and he temporarily fled his faith in Jesus.

Discussion Questions

1. Leveraging Mark's words, have you ever "deserted" faith and "fled"? If so, why? If not, why not?
2. Why does our faith have a tendency to rise and fall with circumstances? Did you come to faith in the midst of good times or bad times?
3. Read **Mark 14:48–50**.
 - What stands out to you?
 - What are some reasons everyone deserted Jesus and fled?
4. Read **1 Peter 3:9**.
 - What stands out to you?
 - What serves as the anchor or stabilizing force for Peter's faith?
 - What role does suffering play in the life of a believer?

Changing Your Mind

It's human nature to assume the worst about God when circumstances are at their worst. It can seem as if God is far away or not there at all. In the darkest hours, even Peter believed this for a time. But God was near to Peter, and he is near to us as well.

The kingdom of God is near, and everyone is invited to participate.