My name is _____________________, and I will share with you the crucial conversation between Jesus and Peter. Let’s begin with two scripture passages:

Prior to Jesus’ Crucifixion: **John 13: 36-38:**

Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, where are You going?” Jesus answered, “Where I go, you cannot follow Me now; but you will follow later.” Peter said to Him, “Lord, why can I not follow You right now? I will lay down my life for You.” Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for Me? Truly, truly, I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you deny Me three times.

Days after Jesus’ Resurrection: **John 21:3-14**

“I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered. He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.
Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Throughout scripture we find Jesus having numerous crucial conversations. May you refer to them as you begin to accept the challenge of St Paul in Ephesians 4:29 “Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear.” May you emulate and reflect Jesus in all you say and do.

Questions for Group Discussion:

1. Tell of a time when you realized when you had a conversation with someone you wounded. How were you like Peter and Jesus?
2. How different will your conversations be now that you realize that you do not need to measure up or shine bright, rather you’re lovely even with your scars?
3. Since grace is free to all of us and can never be earned, can your conversations become moments of mutual respect and purpose?