

# UNSTUCK

Unstuck from Drift  
Luke 22:24-34  
Pastor Joe Valenti  
January 11, 2026



## SERMON NOTES & QUOTES

### Growth Under Pressure Can Lead to Drift

- Remember: Every time you mess up, you don't have to give up.
- Drift is what happens when growth collides with pressure and we default to self-reliance instead of continued dependence on God.

### Jesus Sees the Battle and Prays Before the Fall

1. Jesus reminds us of the true battle
  2. Jesus limits the enemy
  3. Jesus' prayers work!
- Jesus doesn't pray because Peter is strong. He prays because Peter is growing—trying something new—stepping into something bigger than he's ready for.

### Failure Is Part of Growth – But It Is Not the End

#### Prayer Targets for the Week

- Pray for spiritual alertness under pressure. Ask God to help you recognize what's really happening beneath stress, fear, temptation, or relational tension. Pray that instead of drifting into self-reliance, blame, control, or comparison, you would notice the enemy's schemes and run quickly to Jesus.
- Pray for protection when you feel discouraged or vulnerable. If you've experienced recent failure, weariness, or spiritual drift, ask God to guard your heart from isolation, despair, or giving up. Pray that your faith would be strengthened rather than slowly worn down.
- Pray for repentance that is honest, quick, and hopeful. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you neither justify sin nor drown in shame, but to respond with clear conviction, real turning, and humble returning to Christ.
- Pray that our church would reflect Jesus' patient care. Ask God to shape CVC into a community where strugglers are helped back up rather than shamed, where grace is deep and accountability is strong. Pray that leaders, volunteers, friends, and families would mirror Jesus' steady love—truth without harshness and compassion without compromise.
- Pray that God would use restored people to strengthen others. Ask the Lord to redeem past failures into future fruitfulness, using your story and the stories of others to bring hope, wisdom, perseverance, and encouragement to the body of Christ.