**Sermon Notes**

***Recap of 10/28/12 (John 13:36-38):***

*1. The disciples in John 13ff were bewildered, fearful, facing an uncertain future. Jesus’ announcements to them about His going away, His impending death, that one of the 12 was a traitor sent them into a tailspin. Further, He told them that Peter would disown Him, that Satan wanted to “sift” them, and that they would all fall away. In the words of Bruce Wilkinson and Ken Boa: “In this clear and vivid recollection of Jesus’ last discourse to His intimate disciples, John captures the Lord’s words of comfort and assurance to a group of fearful and confused followers.”*

*2. Jesus’ instructions to the disciples provide us with a roadmap for dealing with life’s uncertainties.*

*3. First, we must not trust in our own strength. That was Peter’s failure.*

*-we must know ourselves, our weaknesses, our breaking point, we must not ignore them.*

*-we must set boundaries for protection*

*-we are all one bad decision from failing as Peter did*

*-“Impetuous and well-meaning, Peter had to learn the hard way to gauge his weaknesses. His example is very human and therefore very helpful.” (Merrill Unger)*

*4. Second, we must not underestimate Satan and his designs on us:*

*-we must be alert, 1 Peter 5:8 (to sin, to anger, to doubting God and His Word)*

*-we must be clothed in God’s armor, Ephesians 6:13-18*

*-we must train vigorously, Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Philippians 4:8*

*-we must not neglect the spiritual disciplines (the Word, meditating, praying, etc.). To neglect the spiritual disciplines is to show confidence in the flesh, handling life’s uncertainties without God.*