**Strengthen One Another Study Guide and Small Group Discussion Questions**

In the passage that we have studied, Jesus told Peter that Satan would put him through a severe sifting and that Jesus would allow for this to happen.

***31****“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat,*

Why do you think a good God would allow for Satan to sift humans and Christians? Why doesn’t God just prevent this from happening?

Besides perseverance, what other qualities can we gain when we go through trials and failures?

Recall a previous trial that you faced. What helped you go through this trial?

But at the same time, Jesus declared that Peter would be able to return and recover from his apparent failure. Peter’s return would not be a result of his own abilities, but rather Jesus’ intercession in his behalf.

***32****but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again*

What does it mean for you when you hear that Jesus is interceding in your behalf?

How does one return from an apparent failure? How can we say that we have returned already?

Because of this faith-stretching experience, Peter would be able to help others who were also facing their own challenges and failures.

What value do our own stories of trials and victories provide to another who is currently going through difficult times?

Is there a danger when we immediately relate or connect people’s trials with our own experiences?

How can we support others so that they do not waver (“vacillate”)?