

Lent – Week 4 – March 25th

Children's Message:

I have a story to tell you, so listen very closely...There was once a little boy whose mother loved to embroider (show pictures of embroidery or actual finished product like a pillow that has been embroidered). He would sit at her knee and look up from the floor and ask her what she was doing. She told him that she was embroidering. From what he could see, it just looked like she was making a big mess with a needle and thread (show the embroidery at this angle or a picture of an embroidery)! His mother smiled and gently said, "My son, you go play for a while. When I am finished, I will bring you to my side and let you see my embroidery." Soon he heard his mother say, "Son, come and sit on my knee." So he did, and he was so surprised and excited to see a beautiful picture (show them on your embroidering or from a picture)! He could not believe it! His mother said, "My son, from underneath it looked so messy, but you did not realize that the mess on the bottom was becoming a beautiful picture on the top."

Today our lesson is the story about the disciple Peter, one of Jesus' closest followers. After Jesus shares his Last supper with His disciples, he told them they would run away and abandon Him – leave him when times get tough. Peter tells Jesus, "Even if all the others leave you, I will not!" But Jesus knows all. He tells Peter, "Today, even this very night, before the rooster crows, you yourself will disown me three times." But Peter did not believe he would ever do such a thing! He kept insisting, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And the others said the same thing also.

Then after the supper Peter kept falling asleep in the garden instead of praying with Jesus like Jesus asked. Soon Judas – one of the disciples who helped the who wanted to kill Jesus. Judas showed them who Jesus was by giving Him a kiss. They arrested Jesus and all of the disciples ran away because they were afraid! Peter decided to follow them at a distance to see where they took Jesus. Peter came to a courtyard and a girl recognized him and said "You were with Jesus!" But Peter denied it, saying, I do not know or understand what you are talking about." Then he went out onto the porch. The same girl saw him again and began to tell others "This is one of Jesus' followers!" But again, Peter denied that he followed Jesus. After a little while, others began saying to Peter, "Surely you are one of them, one of Jesus' followers!" Peter got mad and yelled, "I do not know this man you are talking about!!"

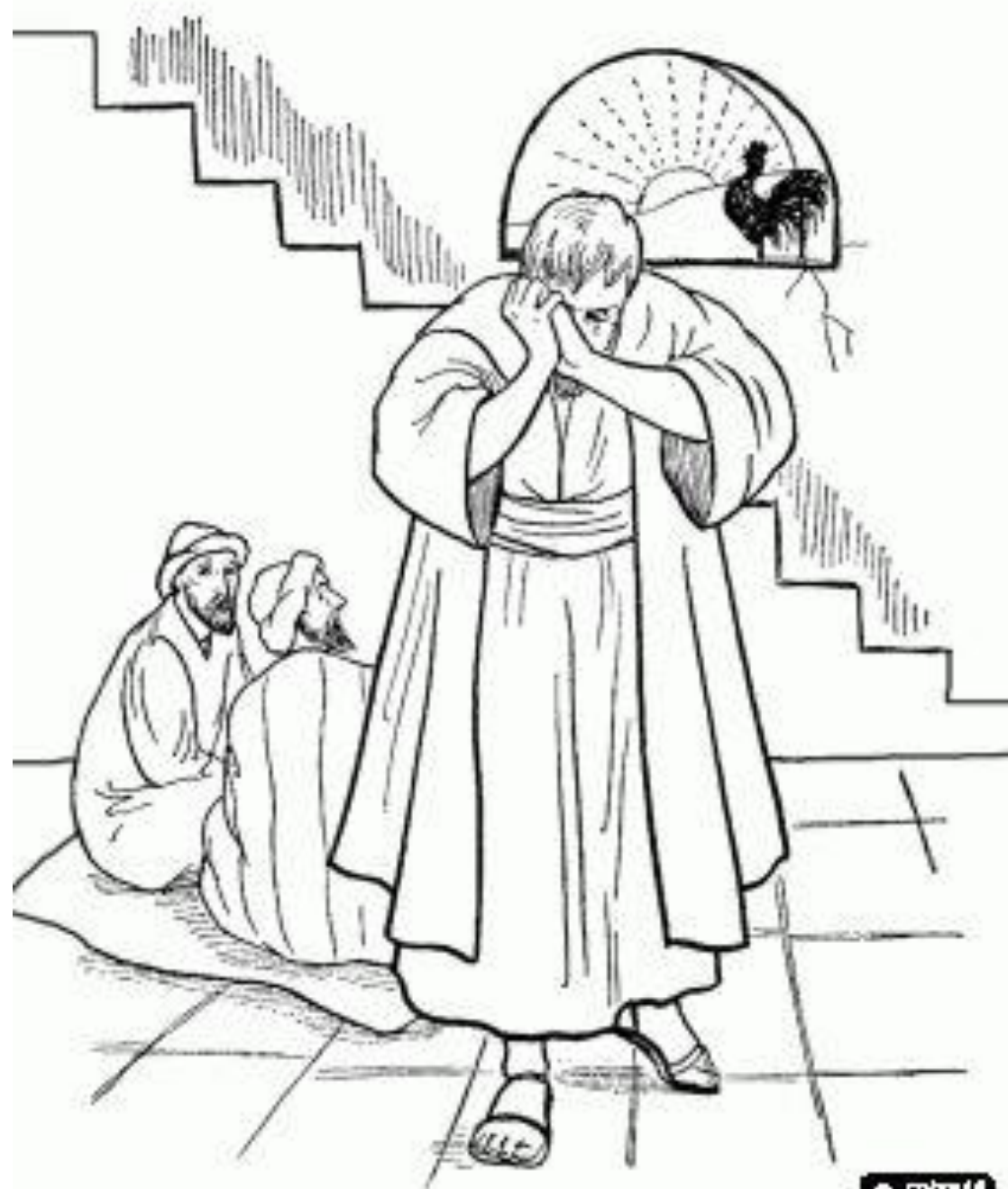
And then a rooster crowed a second time....Peter remember what Jesus said, "Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And Peter began to weep.

Peter felt ashamed and guilty. He knew what he did was very wrong. It embarrassed him to know what an awful sin he had done. He did something wrong – do any of you ever do anything wrong? I do...

And we too sometimes feel bad or ashamed just like Peter did in our lesson tonight. But Jesus was not angry with Peter. In fact, His love is so perfect, He chose to use Peter for great things. Jesus forgave Peter and Peter became a great man of God who shared the Gospel with many many people! He even wrote some of the books in the Bible!

He forgives us and loves us too, no matter what we do. Peter learned this great lesson. Our sin makes us messy people. But no matter how sinful we are, God can use us for His glory, just like He did for Peter. In a way, God takes our mess and makes a beautiful picture, just like the embroidery I showed you. We really are blessed.

Loving God, we thank you for loving us even when we are messy. Thank you for sending Jesus to take our sins away. Amen.





Bible Pathway Adventures

WORD SEARCH

PETER'S DENIAL

V J L R R S K Z H T X A O T M F K W E J
F W Z W U C A I A P H A S C O E Y O F B
I P A S S O V E R U A J R H U U F J U A
J T J F W U G C Y L T T O S N R J O N G
C E E A S H Y Q U L N O I A T G A U L J
P X O M R E S K W N L T O N O A L U E U
E R H R P H B A L A C H Y H F L T Z A P
T P X H E L C T Q K Q V W E O I R M V X
E Y N L Q S E N B G V P U D L L O U E R
R M A O T O K C N J E Q U R I E O O N W
V I T G W K J H R T V T E I V A S E E W
H Y E S H U A D S I C V H N E N T H D V
K E Q A T R B S K X E U X S S G E W B P
D I S C I P L E E W K R K Z E Q R U R O
N D H Y B H I G H P R I E S T M T H E N
G Z E M N U X A I Y P B S O B R A C A Z
M Q D N I S U L Q U T E M P L E L N D I
M B B A Y S Q R Z X I J O S F M M K E B
P U P F B E T R A Y A L E A H H M F J T
S E R V A N T A M A S T E R Y X P C S F

PASSOVER

GALILEAN

PETER

MASTER

HIGH PRIEST

MOUNT OF OLIVES

ROOSTER

BETRAYAL

TEMPLE CRIER

DENY

CAIAPHAS

TEMPLE

SANHEDRIN

GETHSEMANE

SERVANT

YESHUA

DISCIPLE

UNLEAVENED BREAD

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