

Jesus Before the High Priest Peter's Denial

Matthew 26:57-75; Mark 14:53-72; Luke 22:54-71; John 18:12-27



The Story

Jesus' enemies took Him to the house of the high priest. They wanted to find a reason to put Jesus to death. The high priest asked Jesus, "Are you Christ, the Son of God?" Jesus answered, "I am."

The high priest pretended to be very angry. He tore his robe and shouted, "This is a lie!" He turned to Jesus' enemies and said, "What do you think of this man?" They answered, "He is guilty and must die!" The Roman soldiers who were holding Jesus hit Him, spit on Him, and made fun of Him.

When Jesus had been taken prisoner back in the Garden of Gethsemane, Peter had run away. After a time Peter began to wonder what was happening to Jesus. He turned back and followed the crowd to the high priest's house.

While Jesus was being questioned by the high priest, Peter waited in the yard to see what would happen. There were others

waiting with Peter. Three times he was asked, "Aren't you one of Jesus' disciples?" Peter was afraid. Three times he answered, "I am not. I do not even know the man!"

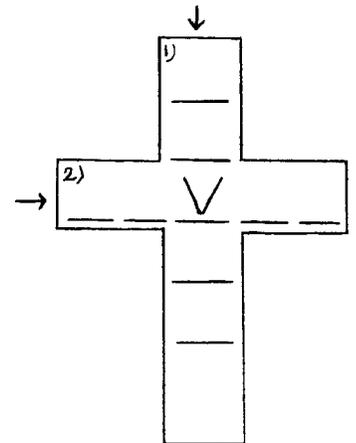
A rooster crowed. Peter looked up and saw Jesus being led past. Jesus looked sadly at him. He knew Peter would betray him and had even warned him. Then Peter remembered how Jesus had warned him, "Peter, before the rooster crows twice, you will say three times that you do not even know me!" Peter felt so sorry for his sin that he went out and cried. But he also believed that Jesus would forgive him.

Judas, the disciple who had betrayed Jesus, was also very sad about his sin. He hanged himself because he felt his sin was too bad for Jesus to forgive. But we know that the Bible tells us that Jesus died on the cross for all sins, for all people.

This is the good news that we want to tell everybody.

Activity One

When we think of Jesus dying for us on the cross, we know Jesus 1) loved us and Jesus 2) saved us from our sins. Write the underlined words in the cross puzzle.



Activity Two - God does not want us to lie. In the 8th Commandment He says, "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." (Ex. 20:16) In Colossians 3:9 the Bible says, "Do not lie to one another." In our story today many lies were told. Write on the blank the name of the person who spoke or believed each of the statements below? Draw a happy or sad face to show whether the statement was the truth 😊 or whether it was a lie ☹.

Who...

... believed his sin against Jesus was too great to be forgiven? ○

... shouted, "This is a lie!"? ○

... said, "I do not even know the man!"? ○

... said, "Yes, I am the Christ, the Son of God."? ○

Passage

"The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:6

Activity Three - Finish the Dot-to-Dot drawing in the box and you will see another character from the story.

- ▶ What part did this character play in the story?
- ▶ How did Peter feel about his sin?
- ▶ How did Judas feel about his sin?
- ▶ What does the Bible say about our sins? (See the cross puzzle on page 2 for the Bible passage.)

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for suffering so much to pay for my sins. Amen

