

Jesus Forgives Peter - April 11

Parents: When Jesus was arrested and taken to the high priest Peter followed close behind. Jesus knew Peter would be afraid and deny he was a disciple not just once, but three times. Jesus went to the cross to cover that sin and all of ours, too. Jesus forgave Peter and told him to share the wonderful news of the gospel.



Read: John 18: 15-18 Jesus Arrested

15 Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard, 16 but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the servant girl on duty there and brought Peter in. 17 "You aren't one of this man's disciples too, are you?" she asked Peter. He replied, "I am not." 18 It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.

John 18: 25-27 Peter's Denial

Meanwhile, Simon Peter was still standing there warming himself. So they asked him, "You aren't one of his disciples too, are you?" He denied it, saying, "I am not." 26 One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with him in the garden?" 27 Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a rooster began to crow.

John 21: 15-17 Jesus Reinstates Peter

15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." 16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." 17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Discuss: When Jesus was arrested and taken to the high priest did Peter stay behind or follow him? *Peter followed Jesus.*

When the servant girl asked Peter if he was one of Jesus' disciples did he say yes or no? *Peter said no he wasn't.*

How many other times did Peter deny that he was a follower of Jesus? *Two more times for a total of three and then the rooster began to crow.*

The rooster began to crow after the third time Peter said that he wasn't a follower of Jesus.

Why is that important? *Jesus had told Peter earlier that this would happen.*

After Jesus died he returned from heaven and ate with the disciples. Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Jesus. What did Peter say? *"Yes, Lord. You know that I love you."*

Jesus forgave Peter and told him to? *Feed and care for my sheep.* What do you think that means? *Tell others about Jesus. Share God's Word. We are the sheep and we get fed by reading and listening to the Bible.*

Key Point: Share God's Word

Share (Take one flat hand move it towards body and out to others, repeat)

God's Word (Point finger to middle of opposite palm, place both palms together and pretend to open a book)



Family Activity: As you color the sheet, think of ways you can share God's Word with others this week. Write your ideas on the coloring sheet as well.

Prayer: Dear God, We praise You for sending Jesus to save us from our sins. We are so grateful we are forgiven. Help us share this amazing news with others. We thank and love You. Amen.

Next Steps: Memorize John 21:15 - When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

Feed My Lambs



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