

Session 2

Peter denies Jesus

God will always love you, even when you make mistakes

Scripture: Mark 14:27–31; 14:53 – 15:1

Supplies:

- Paper and pencils
- A few true and false facts about chickens
- Broomstick characters for Jesus, Peter, 2 servant girls, Caiaphas
- Enough copies of each activity
- Colouring crayons and pencils
- Feathers and other natural decorations
- Coloured paper or newspaper
- Glue



Welcome

What is true about me? Write down 3 things about yourself; 2 of them must be true and one false. Let each child read his/her own. The other children crow like chickens when they think something is false.

Chicken facts: State a few facts about chickens of which some are true and others false. Children keep quiet when a fact is true or crow when it is false. Adapt the facts according to the children's age.



Worship

Settle down ritual: Children close their eyes in prayer.

- Touch your feet and thank God that you can go where He sends you.
- Touch your hands and thank God that you can help others.
- Touch your mouth and thank God for words to be friendly and kind to others.
- Touch your ears and thank God for time to listen to others.
- Touch your eyes and thank God that you can see people who need help.
- Touch your head and thank God that you can make plans to help your friends.
- Touch your heart (hand on chest) and thank God that you are his child and that He loves you.



Word

(Use the Jesus and Peter broomstick characters for this narrative. The children can crow each time Peter does not speak the truth.)

In today's story we will hear a very powerful word. It is important that we understand it well. I wonder if you know what the word "blasphemy" means?

(In this story blasphemy means that someone is lying.)

Narrator: Today our story starts with Jesus and his disciples in the upper room.

Jesus: “You will all leave me tonight.”

Peter: “Not me! Even if all the others leave You, I will never leave You.”

Jesus: “Before a rooster crows, you will deny three times that you know me.”

Narrator: The disciples ran away when soldiers took Jesus to Caiaphas’ house. Only two of them followed Jesus with a group of people. One of them was Peter. He went into the court of Caiaphas’ house and stood by the fire.
A servant girl (*introduce the broomstick character*) saw Peter’s face in the light of the fire and said:

Girl 1: “I know you! You were with Jesus!”

Peter: “No, I wasn’t! I don’t know what you’re talking about!” (*The children crow.*)

Narrator: He walked to the gate. Soon after that another servant girl saw him and told people:

Girl 2: “This man was with Jesus!”

Peter: “I don’t even know Jesus!” (*The children crow.*)

Narrator: A man said: “You are one of them! I can hear from your way of speaking that you are from Galilee, just like Jesus.”

Peter: (*loud*) “I don’t know Him!” (*The children crow.*)

Narrator: At that moment a rooster crowed. Peter saw Jesus turn around and look at him. He remembered what Jesus said earlier. He went outside and collapsed in tears.
Meanwhile the Sanhedrin (Jewish leaders) met in Caiaphas’ house to sentence Jesus. They had already decided to kill Jesus and were only looking for a reason to do so. They could not find anything against Jesus, so Caiaphas eventually tried to trick Him.

Caiaphas: “Are you the Son of God?”

Jesus: “I am.”

Caiaphas: “We don’t need more evidence. That is blasphemy!”

Narrator: The court agreed: “This man has to die.” They spat at Jesus, blindfolded His eyes, then hit him, saying: “Who hit you? If you are a prophet, tell us!”
At dawn’s first light they brought Jesus to the entire Jewish Council. Again, they asked Him: “Are you the Son of God?”

Jesus: “You say that I am.”

Narrator: They found Him guilty of blasphemy and took Him to the Roman governor, Pilate.

As we know, Jesus was betrayed and found guilty by the people He loved so deeply and in the end, they crucified Him.

Peter did not speak the truth, but he realised it and felt very sad. We know that Jesus died for everyone, including Peter, and that God used him later as a great leader.

Children reflect on the story:

1. I wonder which part of the story touched your heart.
2. I wonder what you would have done differently if you were Peter.
3. I wonder what you think went through Peter’s mind when the rooster crowed.
4. I wonder how we sometimes deny Jesus.



Working and Playing

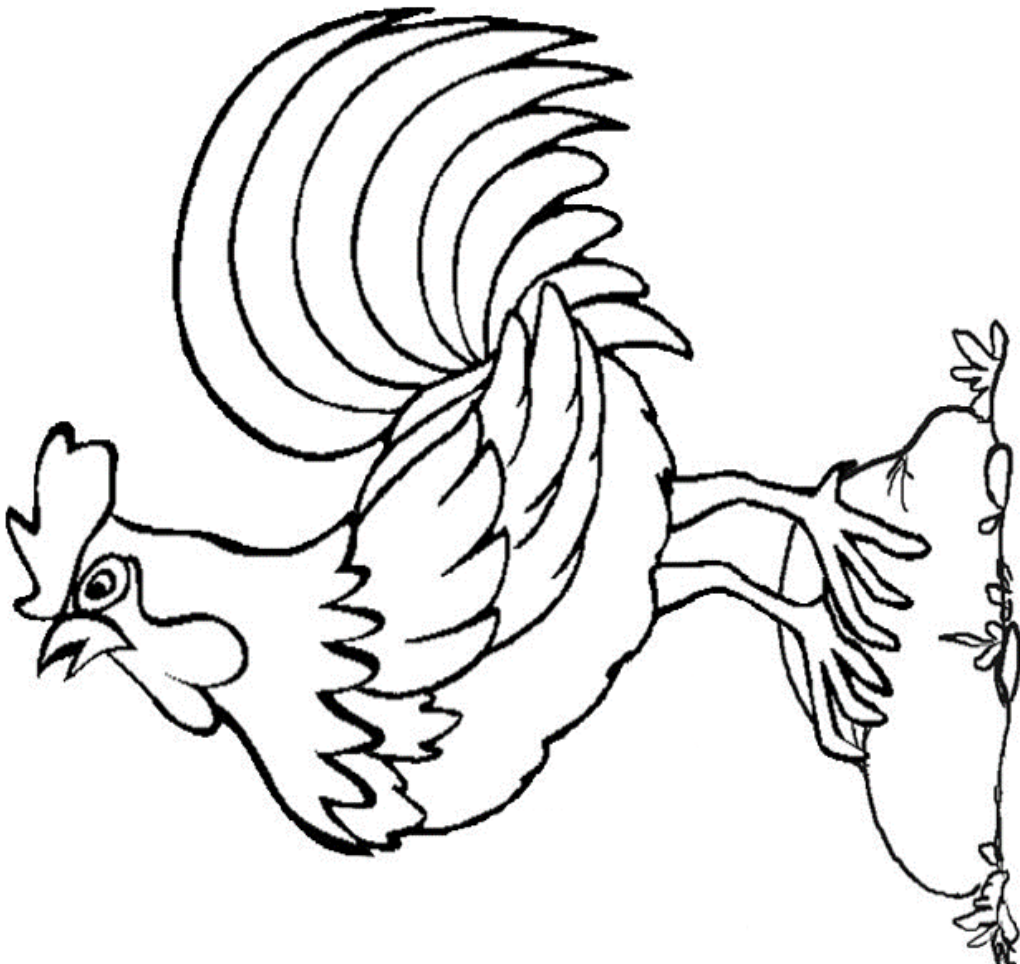
- Colour the picture. Use the number card to find the answer for the correct colour.
- Decorate the picture of the chicken with real feathers (or something that gives texture to the picture) or with pieces of torn paper.
- Make a handprint rooster (see example).
- Have the children write the answer to question 4 (above) in/next to one of the pictures.

Close with the blessing

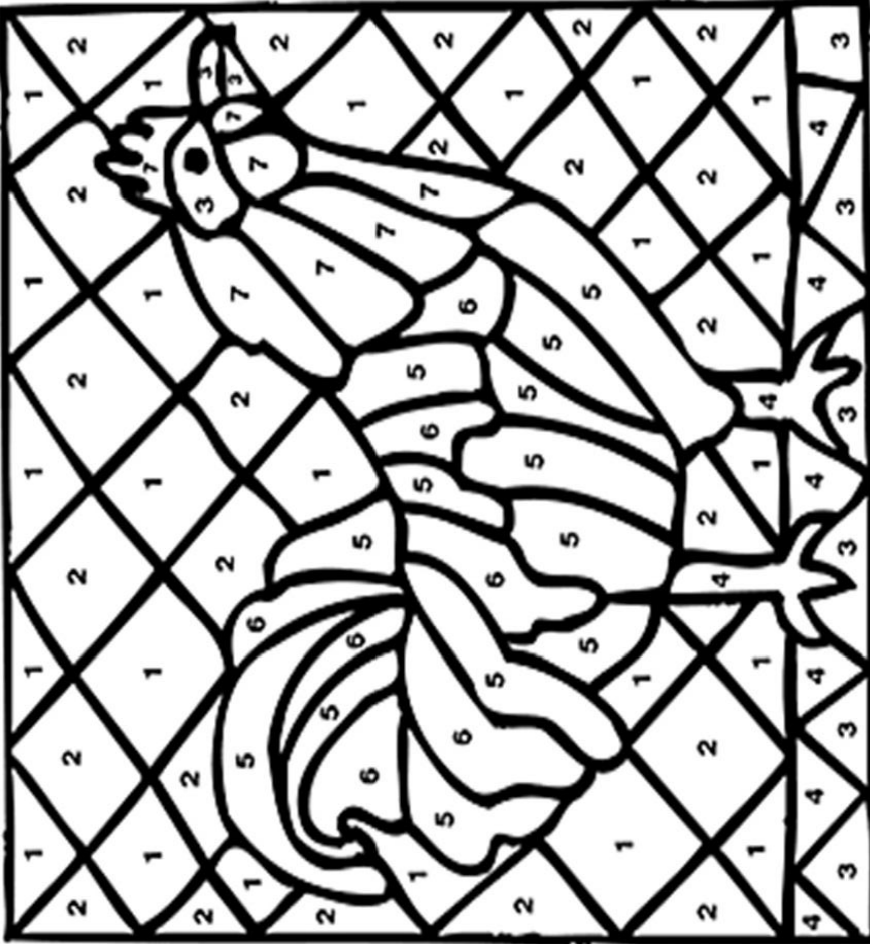
Jesus loves you very much.

He fixes what is wrong.

May we remember to pray
when we are angry or sad.



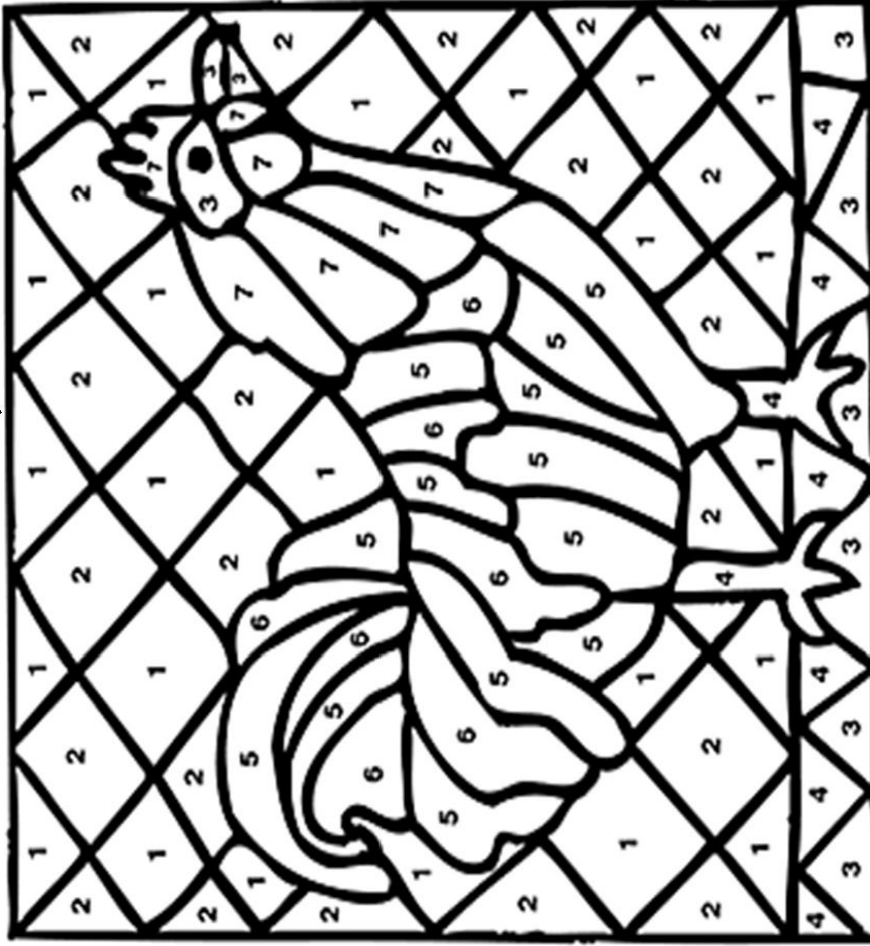
Peter denies Jesus
Mark 14: 27—31; 53—15:1



Which farm animal reminds Peter of his lies?

- 1 = Green
- 2 = Blue
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