

LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Mark

LESSON 44

**PETER DENIES
KNOWING JESUS**

MARK 14:66-72

Life of Christ

Peter Denies Knowing Jesus

Mark 14:66-72

Younger Verse

For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. Romans 1:16

Older Verse

For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of

Lesson Goals

Learn that Peter made a mistake and lied about knowing Jesus
Learn that Jesus forgave Peter and he was a leader of the church
Recognize that we have opportunities to stand up for Jesus

Opener

Is it hard to stand up for Jesus sometimes? When is it the hardest? When no one else believes like you do, it is easy to just stay quiet or go along with what everyone else says. But we should not be ashamed to share our faith with others.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week we talked about a woman who poured perfume on Jesus because she wanted to show Him how special He was to her. When others criticized her, Jesus corrected them because He knew she loved Him with all her heart. The woman was not afraid of what other people thought about her, but only what Jesus thought.

In today's lesson, we find Jesus on the night He was arrested. Previously, He and His disciples had shared a very special meal together. It was the Passover meal, and it was the last time Jesus ate together with His friends before His death. Later that same night, Jesus went to the garden to pray. While He was there, Judas (one of the disciples) led the religious leaders and guards to Jesus. They arrested Him.

The soldiers took Jesus away and He was brought before a group of men. Peter followed the soldiers but stayed out of sight. They decided that Jesus was guilty for lying about being the Son of God. (We know that He was not lying. Jesus really is the Son of God.) Peter watched as all of this took place. It was a cold night, so he went to warm himself by the fire.

A servant girl came over to Peter and stared at him. Then she said to Peter, "You were with Jesus!" Peter responded back to her, "I don't know what you are talking about." What did Peter choose to do? Yes, he lied. Sometime later, the girl saw him again. This time she spoke to some other people there. She said, "This man is one of those people who followed Jesus." Then, a few minutes later, some people said, "We know you are one of those people who followed Jesus. You talk just like He does." Peter got upset this time. He swore to them, "I promise to God that I do not know the man you are talking about!"

Three times, Peter lied about knowing Jesus. Right after his third lie, a rooster crowed for the second time. Suddenly, Peter remembered something Jesus had said. Jesus had told him: "Before the

rooster crows twice, you will say you do not know me three times” (Mark 14:30). Once Peter remembered Jesus’ words, he became very sad and cried bitterly. Jesus was his friend. He had just told all these people that he did not know Jesus.

Peter felt very bad for lying about Jesus. Later we learn that Jesus forgave Peter. After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to His disciples. Jesus asked Peter, “Do you love me?” three times, and He gave Peter the opportunity to say He loved Jesus. We know that Peter had learned from what happened because he used the rest of his life to tell others about the amazing love of Jesus.

We, too, are responsible for our choices. Jesus can help us know how to make the best possible choices. We can learn from Jesus by reading our Bible, praying, and coming to Bible Study. As we learn more, we see how we can be obedient to doing things the way Jesus would. We know Jesus wants to help us do the right thing because He left Heaven to come down to earth. He showed us how to love God and how much God loves us. God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to die on the cross and be raised back to life so that we could be with Him forever. If you want to know more about how to ask Jesus to forgive you and come into your life, please talk with me.

Review Questions

1. Who followed the guards and Jesus to the place they questioned Jesus?
(Peter, one of the disciples)
2. How did Peter respond when the girl said she had seen him with Jesus? (He told her she didn’t know what she was talking about.)
3. How many times did Peter say he didn’t know Jesus? (three times)
4. What did Peter do when he heard the rooster crow the second time? (He cried bitterly.)

Prayer Time

Thank God for His forgiveness and love. Pray that we will never be ashamed to tell people we believe in Jesus.

Life Application

Peter made a terrible mistake when he lied about knowing Jesus. But Jesus forgave him and gave him another chance. And He will do the same for us. Maybe you have been afraid to speak out about Jesus to your friends. Ask Jesus to help you be bold for Him. He will help you know what to say.

It is always good to know some Bible verses from memory, like John 3:16 and Romans 10:9. If someone asks you about how to receive Christ, these verses are a great place to start!

Planning for Lesson 45
Remembering the Cross and Empty Tomb
Mark 15:1-16:8

Preschool Lesson for Peter Denies Knowing Jesus

Hey, kids! Does anyone know how to crow like a rooster? (Let kids try to make rooster sounds.) A rooster says, “Cock-a-doodle-doo!” They usually crow early in the morning. Let’s find out when a rooster crowed in today’s story!

In today’s lesson, we find Jesus on the night He was arrested. He and His disciples had shared a very special meal together. It was the Passover meal, and it was the last time Jesus ate together with His friends before His death. Later that same night, Jesus went to the garden to pray. While He was there, Judas (one of the disciples) led the religious leaders and guards to Jesus. They arrested Him.

The soldiers took Jesus away and He was brought before a group of men. Peter followed the soldiers but stayed out of sight. They decided that Jesus was guilty for lying about being the Son of God. (We know that He was not lying. Jesus really is the Son of God.) Peter watched as all of this took place. It was a cold night, so he went to warm himself by the fire. (*Shiver and rub your hands together.*)

While he was there, a girl recognized him. She said, “You were with Jesus.” Peter lied, “I don’t know what you’re talking about.” Soon after that, the girl came back again. She spoke to the other people there, “That man was one of the people with Jesus!” What did Peter do this time? Tell the truth or lie again? He lied, “No, I was not with Jesus.” The people did not give up. They said, “You were with Jesus. You talk like Him!” Peter got very upset. He answered and said, “I promise, I do not know who you are talking about!” Three times Peter lied. (*Hold up three fingers.*)

At that moment a rooster crowed for a second time. (*Make the rooster noise.*) When Peter heard the rooster, he became very sad. Jesus had told him that he would lie three times before a rooster crowed. Peter felt very bad that he had lied. Jesus was his friend.

Later we learn that Jesus forgave Peter. After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to His disciples. Jesus asked Peter, “Do you love me?” three times, and He gave Peter the opportunity to say He loved Jesus. We know that Peter had learned from what happened, because he used the rest of his life to tell others about the amazing love of Jesus.

Hands-on Activities for Peter Denies Knowing Jesus

Look for rooster crafts and have the children make roosters. Remind them why Peter was sad when the rooster crowed twice.

Bring dominoes. Give the children free time to play with the pieces. Demonstrate how dominoes fall, creating a chain reaction. Let the children experiment with lining the dominoes up and knocking them down. Tie this activity into a discussion of how lying is wrong and can create bad chain reactions. Challenge the students to tell the truth.

Before and after pictures: Have kids draw pictures of Peter crying. Discuss that Peter felt guilty about lying. Ask kids if they feel bad when they do something wrong. Talk about how we can ask God to forgive us, like Peter did. And God is faithful to forgive us! Then have the kids draw a picture of Peter after Jesus forgave him—he was happy!

Have the kids draw a picture of themselves saying today's memory verse: "I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ." Discuss what it means to be ashamed of something (to be embarrassed or afraid to talk about it). We must never be ashamed of following Jesus.

**For I am not
ashamed of this
Good News
about Christ.
Romans 1:16**



For I am not ashamed
of this Good News
about Christ. It is the
power of God at work,
saving everyone who
believes.

Romans 1:16



Word Search

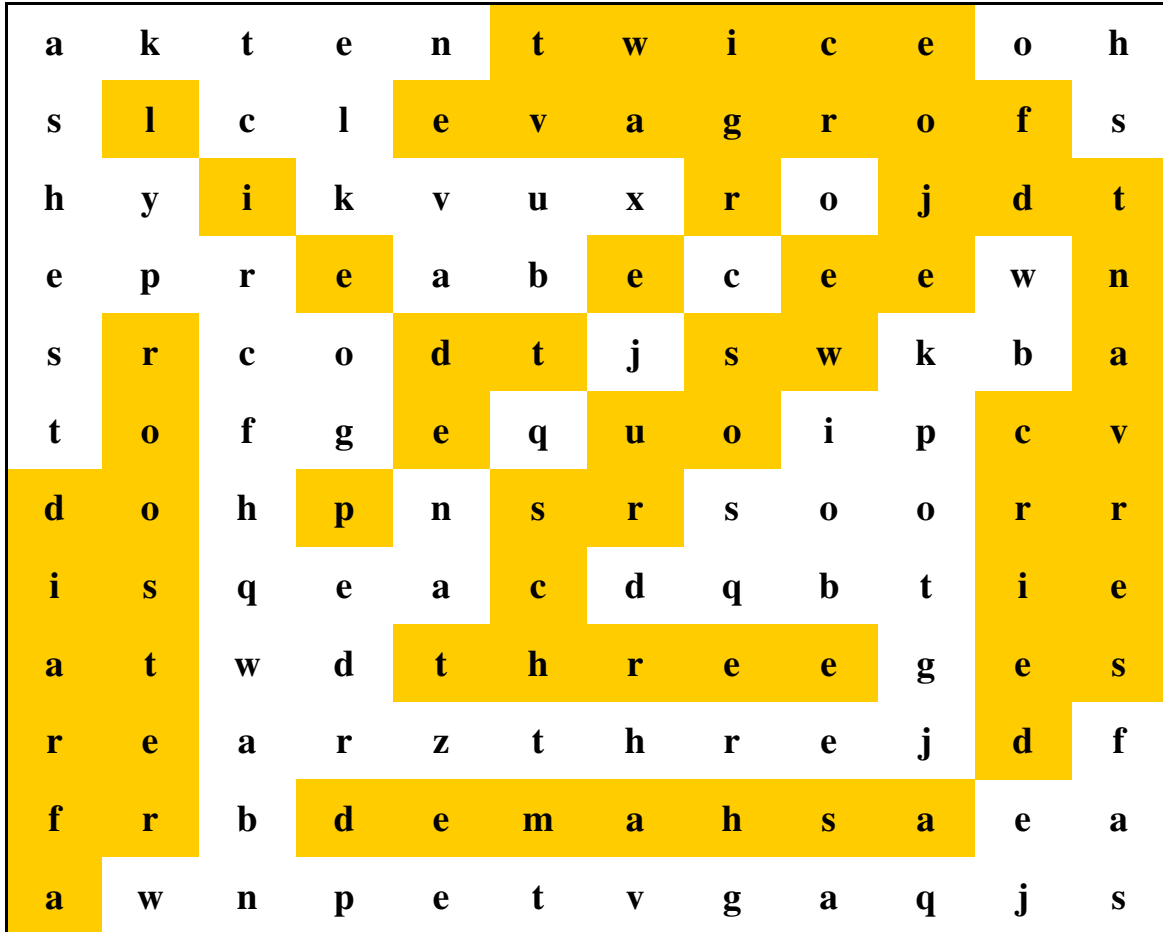
Peter Denies Knowing Jesus

a	k	t	e	n	t	w	i	c	e	o	h
s	l	c	l	e	v	a	g	r	o	f	s
h	y	i	k	v	u	x	r	o	j	d	t
e	p	r	e	a	b	e	c	e	e	w	n
s	r	c	o	d	t	j	s	w	k	b	a
t	o	f	g	e	q	u	o	i	p	c	v
d	o	h	p	n	s	r	s	o	o	r	r
i	s	q	e	a	c	d	q	b	t	i	e
a	t	w	d	t	h	r	e	e	g	e	s
r	e	a	r	z	t	h	r	e	j	d	f
f	r	b	d	e	m	a	h	s	a	e	a
a	w	n	p	e	t	v	g	a	q	j	s

Peter	servant	lied
three	rooster	crowed
twice	cried	ashamed
afraid	Jesus	forgave

Word Search

Peter Denies Knowing Jesus



Peter	servant	lied
three	rooster	crowed
twice	cried	ashamed
afraid	Jesus	forgave

Peter told the people he didn't

KNOW

Jesus how many times?

Circle the right answer.

1, 100, 3

