

Key Passage:

Peter Disowns Jesus- Matthew 26:31-36, 69-75 NIV (Excerpt taken from BibleGateway.com)

³¹ Then Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written:

“I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.”^[a]

³² But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”

³³ Peter replied, “Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.”

³⁴ “Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.”

³⁵ But Peter declared, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” And all the other disciples said the same.

Gethsemane

³⁶ Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.”

69-75

⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. “You also were with Jesus of Galilee,” she said.

⁷⁰ But he denied it before them all. “I don’t know what you’re talking about,” he said.

⁷¹ Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, “This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth.”

⁷² He denied it again, with an oath: “I don’t know the man!”

⁷³ After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, “Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away.”

⁷⁴ Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, “I don’t know the man!” Immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: “Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.

Main Point:

I can only wonder how Peter felt when he heard the rooster crow. In that moment, he remembered the words of Jesus, and he knew he had failed. He ran from the scene and wept bitterly. He had let Jesus down again, and knowing Jesus was headed for his execution only made it worse.

The story doesn't end there, of course. Jesus died on the cross later that day, but He rose from the grave on Sunday morning. Jesus sought Peter out and forgave him for his denials. He commissioned Peter to go and tell the world that Jesus had come to die for our sins, and Peter did just that. Peter had a wake-up call when he heard the rooster, and he never went to sleep on his faith again.

God gave him the courage to stand up and preach the gospel from that day forward. Peter stood for Jesus in tough times, even when he knew he was facing death. Peter woke up when he heard the rooster, and he found the courage to stand up for Jesus. Even in tough times, we can choose to stand faithfully for Jesus, because Jesus is always faithful to us.

Closing Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for always being there. Give us the courage to always stand with You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

Here are some things you can do at home this week:

Game Time

What you will need:

- Oreos OR Other Cookie/Cracker

What to do:

Give every child an Oreo. Everyone will tilt their head up and place an Oreo over their closed eye. They have one minute to move the cookie from their eye to their mouth by wiggling the muscles on their face to transport the cookie. Any players who can make it before time expires win a prize. Use a loud sound of rooster crowing or a BUZZ to signal the end of the game.

* If you have multiple players you can also make it a race between players rather than a timed game.

Craft Time

What you will need:

- Paper Lunch Bags
- Crayons, Markers, and Other Craft Supplies

What to do:

Have the kids make puppets of the rooster and of Peter so they can re-tell the story at home.

Memory Verse

Psalm 25:4: “ Lord, show me your ways. Teach me how to follow you.”
Say the verse crowing like a rooster!

Make it Stick Parent Page

Here are some ideas of ways that you can think about the story through the week:

Parent Time- What You Need to Know:

Peter failed Jesus the night He was betrayed, but Peter later became one of the leaders of Christ's church on Earth. Even when he was facing death, Peter stood strong. Ask God to give you and your children the courage to stand up for Christ.

Hanging Out:

Share with your kids a time when you had to take a stand. Why did you feel like you needed to speak up? How did you get the courage to do so? Ask your kids how God can give them courage to stand up for Jesus.

At Dinner:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What did Peter do before the rooster crowed?
- What was Peter afraid of?
- How can we find the courage to stand up for Jesus when it seems hard to do?

At Bedtime:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

"Lord, show me your ways. Teach me how to follow you." Psalm 25:4 (NIV)

Next Week – We're continuing to look at **ANIMALS IN THE BIBLE**

Things to gather for activities:

Game

*Balloons

Craft

*Construction Paper

*Cotton Balls

*Crayons, Markers, and Other Craft

Supplies