

Lesson 33



4-18-2021
LEADER GUIDE

PETER IS RESTORED

MATTHEW 26:30-35, 69-75, AND JOHN 21:1-19

GOAL

To teach children the meaning of true love as seen in the story of Peter's denial and restoration. The lesson begins when Peter was shown his weakness and his inability to sacrifice his own interests for the interest of His Master. Believing that his life was still his own, he did whatever he could to preserve it and denied the Lord. But Peter was not left broken and unrestored—the training continued when Jesus demonstrated a self-sacrificing love with His own suffering and death. The weakness of Peter revealed and the strength of God's love demonstrated, Jesus reached out to Peter in forgiveness and reconciliation. The result was a changed man ready to love in full surrender.

WORDS TO KNOW

Deny: To disown; to reject or abandon. Peter was scared that if others knew he was a follower of Jesus, he would be subjected to the same suffering, so he denied that he even knew Jesus.

MEMORY VERSES

Matthew 26:34: Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times."

MEMORY VERSE MEANING

Matthew 26: 34: Jesus knew the hidden things about Peter and that he would deny Him. His warning to Peter included a detailed prediction that a rooster would crow after the third denial. Everything happened exactly as Jesus said it would.



OVERVIEW

Read Matthew 26:30-35, 69-75, and John 21:1-19: Peter promised Jesus that he would never abandon Him, but Jesus warned, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” Just as Jesus had predicted, Peter denied Him three times, and the rooster crowed. But this was only the beginning of Peter’s lesson: Jesus was not through with him. Jesus showed Peter that he was forgiven and gave him the opportunity to be reconciled. He asked Peter three times, “Do you love me?” and Peter replied three times, “You know that I do.” Jesus forgave and restored Peter and called him to a life of surrender and submission.

SUGGESTIONS

Denying Jesus means to reject the knowledge of Him or to abandon Him. How are ways we can be guilty of denying Jesus? Give the students a couple of examples, then let them come up with a few of their own.

- 1.** We deny Jesus when we are ashamed of Him. For example, if we are around people who think Christians are weird, we may refuse to acknowledge that we are followers of Christ for fear of being rejected.
- 2.** We deny Jesus when we misrepresent Him. For example, some say there are many ways to heaven, but Jesus clearly stated that He is the only way.
- 3.** We deny Jesus when we are hypocritical. For example, some people might say they are followers of Jesus, but they habitually not do what He asks them to do.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: Who said he would not fall away and leave Jesus alone?

A1: Peter said he would not fall away and leave Jesus alone.

Q1b: Have you ever studied really hard for a test, but still got questions wrong?

TN: Peter knew that Jesus was the Messiah. He knew that he loved Jesus. When Jesus told the disciples about what was about to happen, Peter knew, without a shadow of a doubt, that what Jesus was describing wasn't going to happen to him. But like taking a test on a subject we have studied for, in the moment, things can change.

SLIDE 2



Q2a: What did the disciples do after Jesus was taken away?

A2: *The disciples scattered in every direction after Jesus was taken away.*

SLIDE 3



Q3a: Someone said they recognized what about Peter?

A3: Someone said they recognized Peter's accent.

SLIDE 4



Q4a: What did Peter and some of the other disciples decide to do after Jesus' death?

A4: Peter and some of the other disciples decided to go fishing after Jesus' death.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 5



Q5a: What did the stranger on the shore tell the disciples to do?

A5: The stranger on the shore told the disciples to cast their nets on the right side of the boat.

Q5b: Has anyone ever given you good advice?

TN: Let students answer. People we know and love often have special insight into situations we face. Sometimes it's because they've lived through something similar, maybe they know someone who did, or maybe this loved one of ours is just very wise. Regardless, if the person is someone we love and respect, advice can be very helpful. The stranger on the shore offered advice that couldn't hurt the disciples to follow, so they did as the stranger suggested, and it paid off big time. Jesus has insight into every situation we face in life. If we ever need help or advice, all we need to do is ask; He'll tell us where to cast our nets every time.

SLIDE 6



Q6a: Who dove into the water to reach the shore where Jesus was waiting?

A6: Peter dove into the water to reach the shore where Jesus was waiting.

Q6b: Who or what would make you jump out of a boat and swim to shore like Peter did to see Jesus?

TN: Let students answer. Make sure to connect the happiness and excitement they feel at the thought of whatever they would jump out of a boat and swim to shore for to the happiness Peter felt at seeing Jesus again. This is such a happy moment in the story!



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 7



Q7a: How many times did Jesus ask Peter if he loved Him?

A7: Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him.

Q7b: Have you ever had to ask someone to forgive you for something you did?

TN: So many emotions rise to the surface: shame, guilt, sadness, regret. Peter was feeling all of those things. When Jesus asked Peter if he loved Him, He wasn't trying to make Peter feel bad over and over again; He was giving Peter an opportunity to cover over the denials with declarations of love. Even though Peter denied Him, He gave him a chance to make it right, and He does that with all of us. When we sin, Jesus is never done with us; He will always offer us forgiveness.



MEMORY
VERSES

Matthew 26:34: Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times."

BIG IDEA

Jesus' love and forgiveness can transform weakness into purpose and strength.

CLOSING
PRAYER

Dear Jesus, thank You for Your faithfulness to us, even when we are unfaithful. Thank You for forgiving us and restoring us when we fall. Thank You for Your self-sacrificing love. Help us to live boldly for You. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

PETER IS RESTORED

CROSSWORD ANSWER KEY

Across

2. After Peter remembered what Jesus had told him, he ran out and **(Cried)** bitterly.
3. Not long after the death of Jesus, Peter and a couple of the other disciples went out on a boat to do some **(Fishing)**.
6. Peter claimed he would never leave the Lord and said, "Though the rest of them fall away, I will never **(Leave)** you!"
7. A young **(Servant)** girl approached Peter first, questioning his connection with Jesus.
8. When the disciples came back from being in the boat all night, who was the mysterious figure they saw on the distant shore? **(Jesus)**

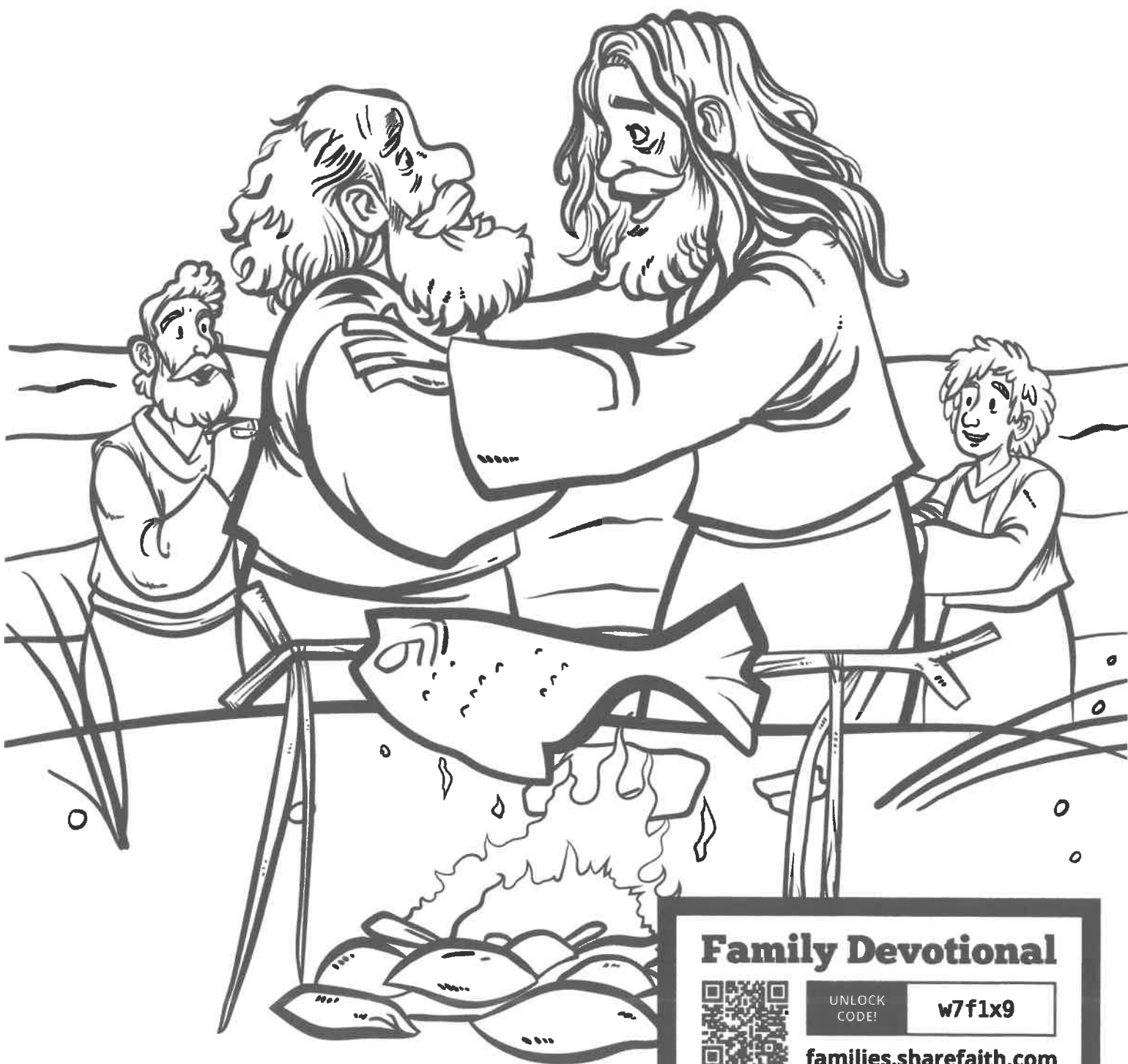
Down

1. Jesus warned His **(Disciples)** of the events that were about to happen. He warned them that they would be so frightened, they would all run away and abandon Him.
4. Jesus said to Peter, "Follow **(Me)**."
5. Jesus told Peter he would deny Him **(Three)** times, and after that the rooster would crow.
6. Three times Jesus asked Peter, "Do you **(Love)** me?"

PETER IS RESTORED

Matthew 26:34

Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times."



Family Devotional



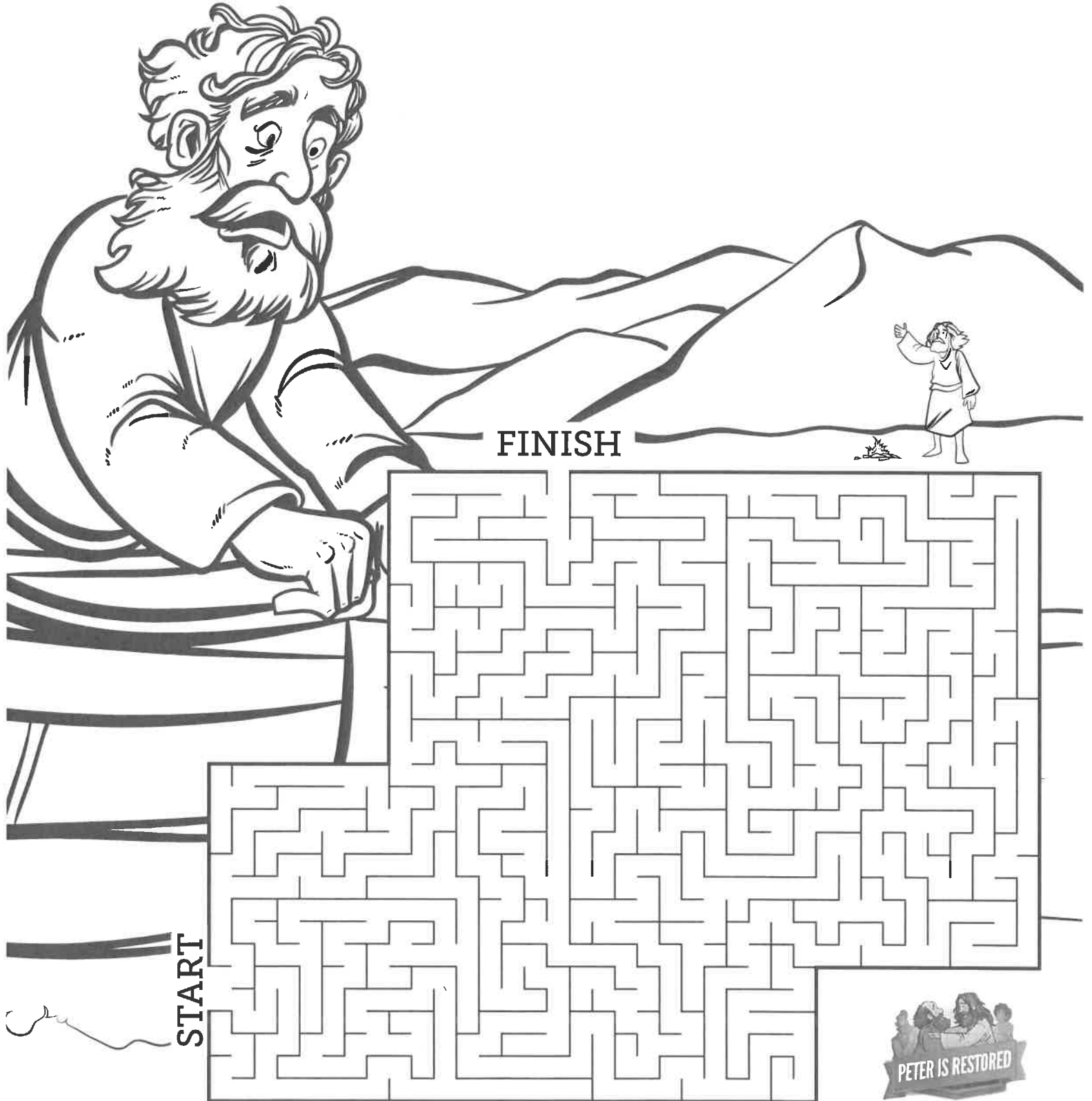
UNLOCK
CODE!

w7f1x9

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PETER IS RESTORED

Guide the disciples to the shore.



START

FINISH



PETER IS RESTORED

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



PETER IS RESTORED



Discover the hidden words.



S	R	E	T	S	O	O	R	C	R	I	E	D	H	F
S	E	F	S	B	P	A	E	B	E	L	C	B	B	I
X	J	L	I	H	J	E	S	H	M	B	C	C	M	E
T	L	V	P	S	K	R	T	E	K	G	K	L	P	E
S	R	U	E	I	H	X	H	E	T	A	F	B	S	S
R	U	E	U	L	C	I	Z	X	R	B	J	B	H	H
T	X	S	A	F	L	S	N	S	E	R	V	A	N	T
O	H	L	E	U	O	V	I	G	E	M	K	B	D	O
K	O	R	O	J	V	Y	F	D	J	N	L	G	W	G
S	G	Q	E	R	E	K	E	O	K	X	E	H	Y	B
P	O	V	P	E	R	V	W	R	L	B	N	P	U	U
N	M	U	D	K	A	C	H	T	O	L	D	E	N	Y
E	U	J	O	E	R	X	M	D	K	U	O	W	A	S
Y	L	P	L	O	A	K	D	U	E	U	V	W	O	K
U	X	E	H	B	T	E	Z	K	S	K	I	P	T	R

Word Bank

CRIED
FISHING
LEAVE
PETER

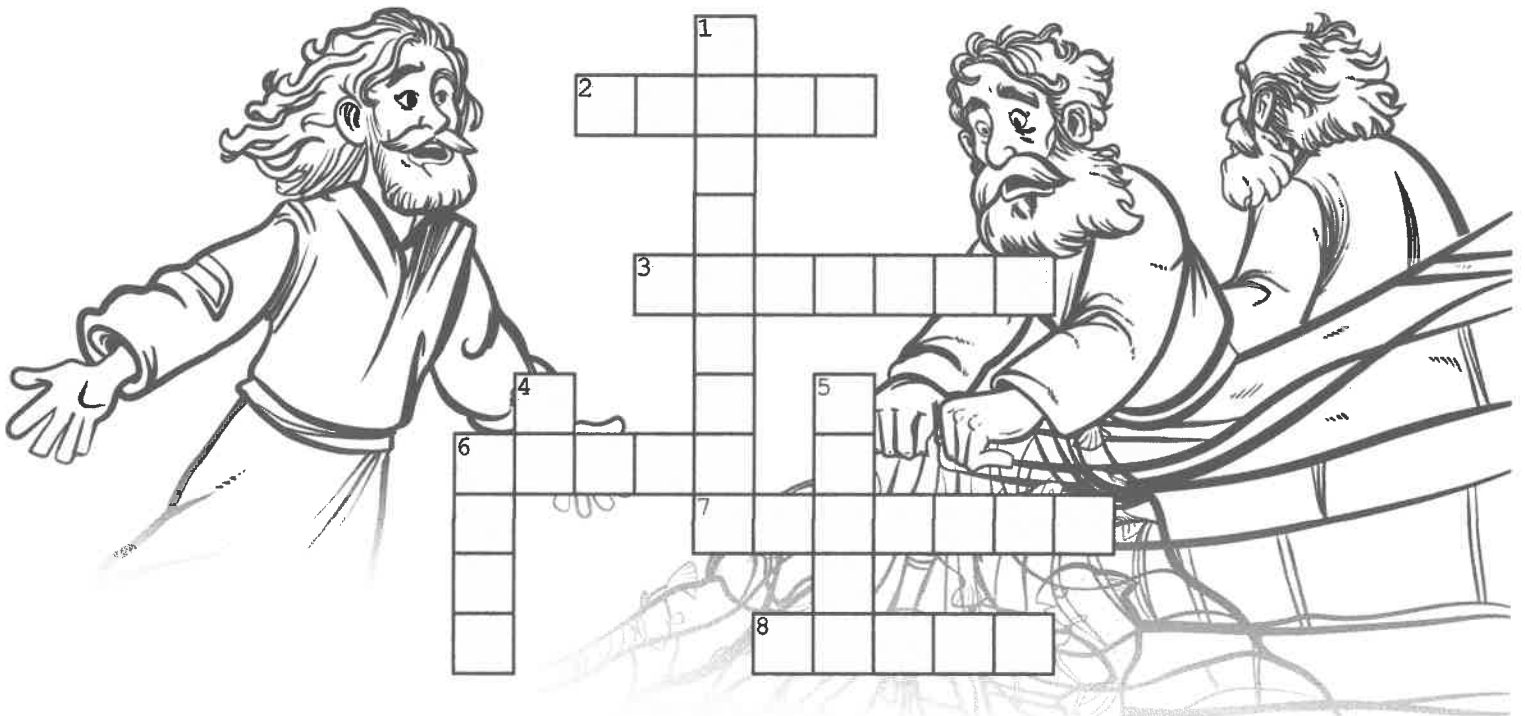
ROOSTER
SERVANT
JESUS
DISCIPLES

THREE
LOVE
FOLLOW
DENY



PETER IS RESTORED

Matthew 26:30-35, 69-75, and John 21:1-19



Across

2. After Peter remembered what Jesus had told him, he ran out and ____ bitterly.
3. Not long after the death of Jesus, Peter and a couple of the other disciples went out on a boat to do some ____.
6. Peter claimed he would never leave the Lord and said, "Though the rest of them fall away, I will never ____ you!"
7. A young ____ girl approached Peter first, questioning his connection with Jesus.
8. When the disciples came back from being in the boat all night, who was the mysterious figure they saw on the distant shore?

Down

1. Jesus warned His _____ of the events that were about to happen. He warned them that they would be so frightened, they would all run away and abandon Him.
4. Jesus said to Peter, "Follow ____."
5. Jesus told Peter he would deny Him _____ times, and after that the rooster would crow.
6. Three times Jesus asked Peter, "Do you ____ me?"



Color the picture, then cut out all the shapes to make puzzle pieces.

How fast can you put it all back together? 😊



Jesus
teaches
me to
forgive.

Be kind,
and forgive one
another.