

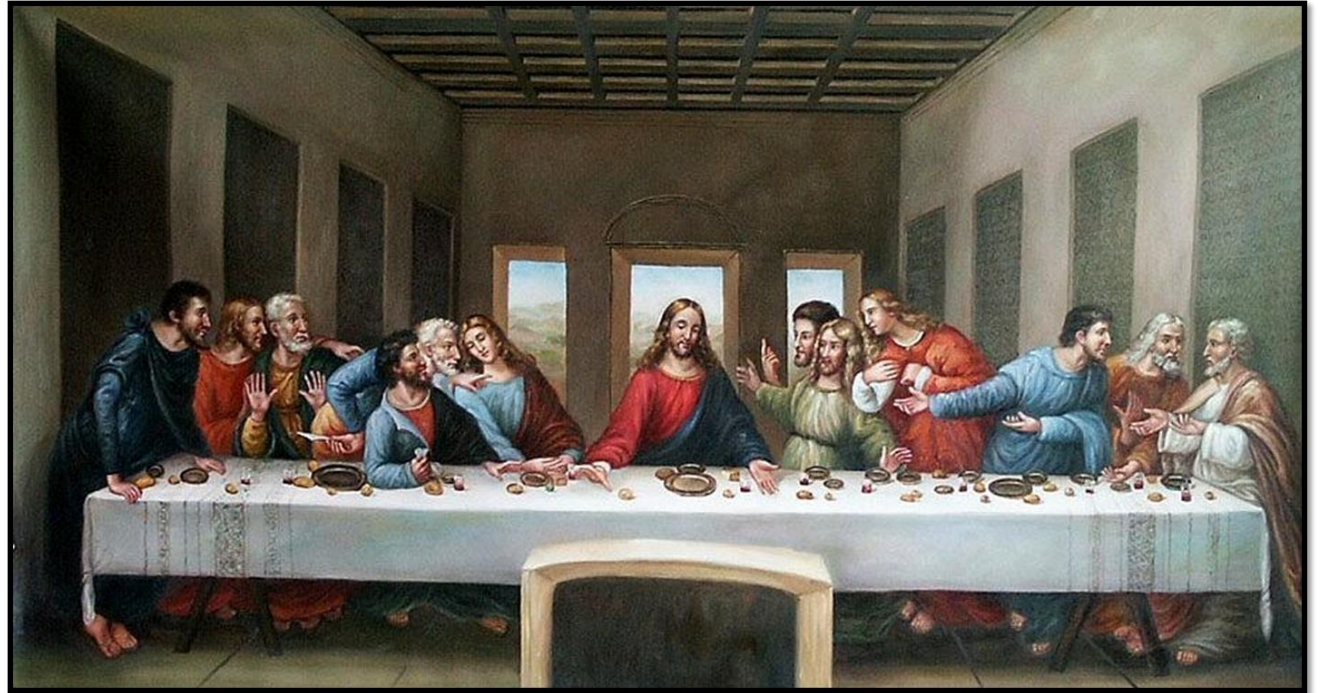
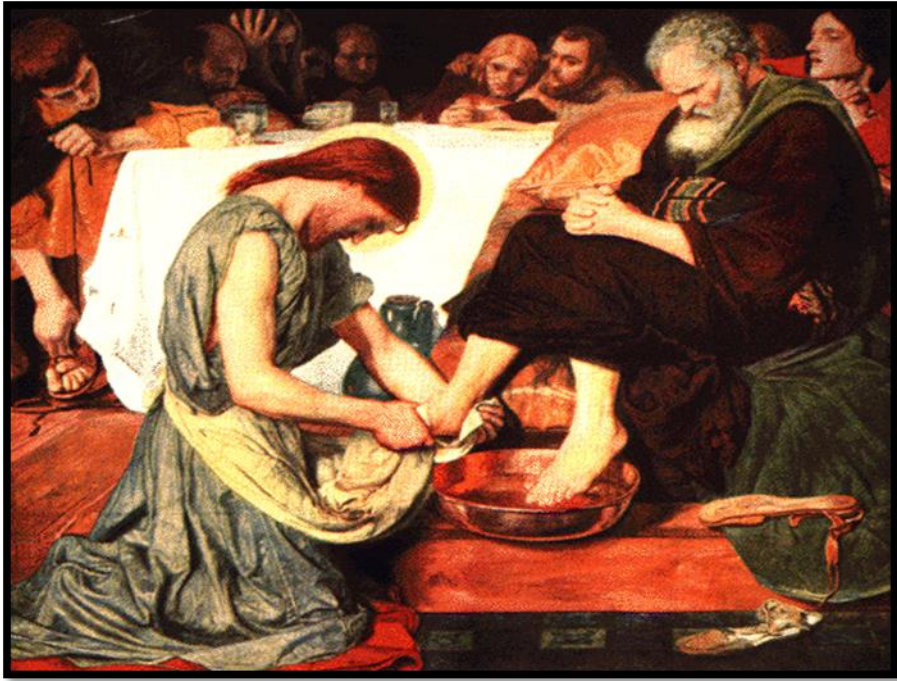
In our RE lesson today, we are going to look at the events of Holy Week. This is the week leading up to the death and resurrection of Jesus. During that week, many things happened to Jesus which are of great significance to us today.



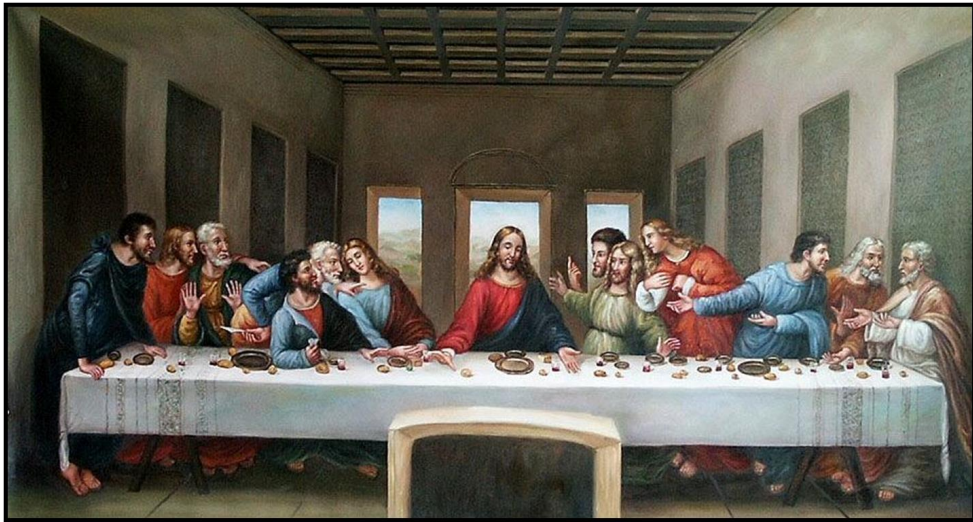
Palm Sunday– Jesus enters Jerusalem. The crowds gathered to welcome him, they were waving palms that they had taken down from the trees and they were singing ‘Hosanna’. Jesus knew that when he entered Jerusalem there would be people waiting to arrest him and sentence him to death.



The Last Supper— Jesus shares the Passover with his disciples. During the Passover meal, Jesus explains to his friends that he will not be with them much longer. Now before they ate, Jesus washed his disciples feet. This was a sign to his disciples about how they should act after he had gone. Jesus was saying that we should serve one another.



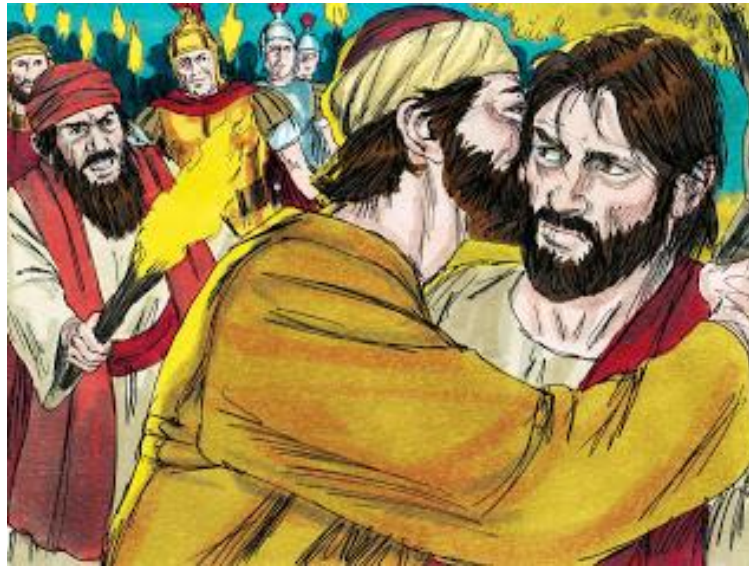
The Last Supper – Jesus also said that one of his disciples would betray him (Judas) During the meal, Jesus used the words ‘This is my body, broken for you’ and ‘This is my blood poured out for you’ Jesus was trying to tell them that this would be the last time they ate together. He knew that very soon he would be killed. He was asking them, whenever they shared this meal again in the future, to remember him.



“Do this in memory of me.”



The Garden of Gethsemane/Jesus is arrested – Jesus and his disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. He told his disciples to stay awake but they fell asleep. When it was time for his arrest, Judas came and kissed Jesus on the cheek. Peter tried to protect Jesus and used his sword. It cut off a soldier's ear but Jesus told him to stop. Jesus touched his ear and he was healed. The soldiers led Jesus away to be sentenced.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzFatYi-ZOU>

Peter's Denial (betrayal) – Peter was Jesus' closest disciple, in fact Jesus changed his name from Simon to Peter because the word Peter means 'rock' or 'stone'. He thought Peter was strong. However, when Jesus was arrested Peter's strength was put to the test. Remember Jesus had already said that he would 'deny' knowing Jesus before the rooster (cockerel) crows three times.

Peter followed, right into the courtyard of the high priest and sat with the guards, warming himself by the fire.

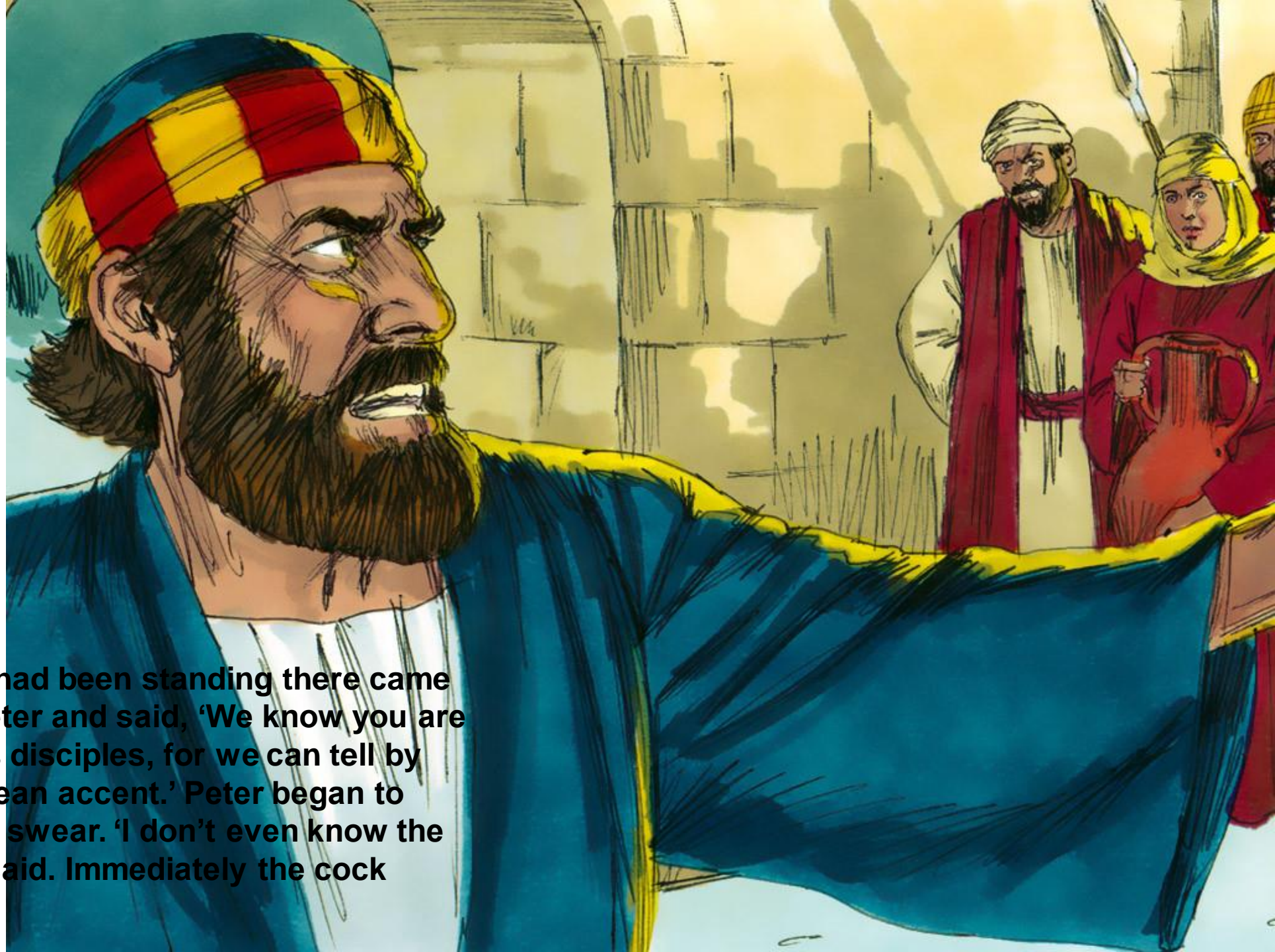




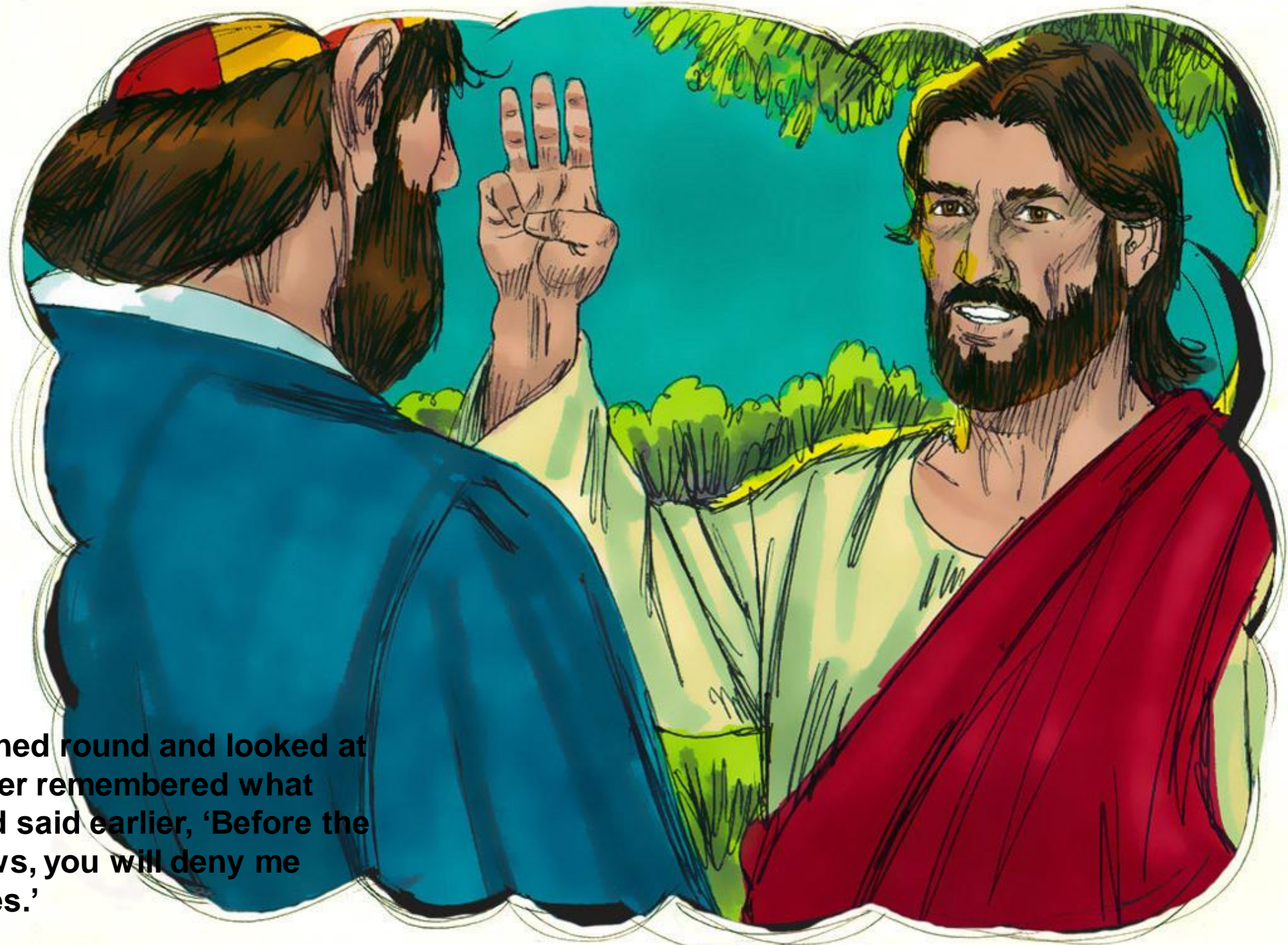
While Peter was in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. She looked closely at Peter and said, 'You were with that Nazarene, Jesus. Peter denied it. 'I don't know what you're talking about,' He replied.



Later, out by the gate,
another girl noticed Him and
said to those standing
around, 'This man was with
Jesus.' Again Peter denied it,
this time with an oath. 'I don't
even know the man,' he said.



Men who had been standing there came over to Peter and said, 'We know you are one of His disciples, for we can tell by your Galilean accent.' Peter began to curse and swear. 'I don't even know the man,' he said. Immediately the cock crowed.



Jesus turned round and looked at Peter. Peter remembered what Jesus had said earlier, 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.'

**Peter went away and
cried bitterly.**

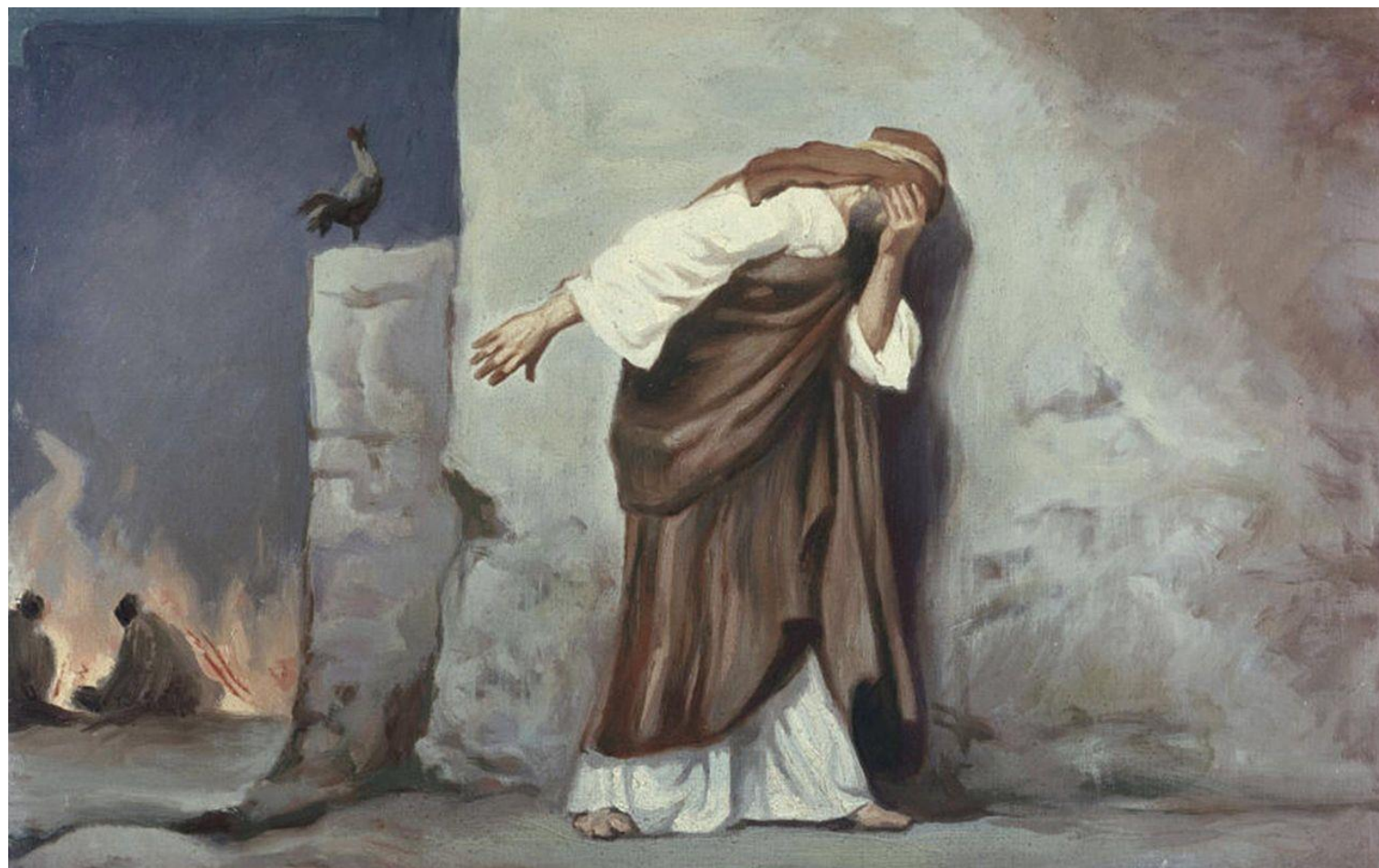


<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z6c4q6f>

Today, we are going to concentrate on what Peter did. Don't forget Peter was Jesus' closest friend and yet he denied knowing him three times. Peter didn't even get the chance to say sorry. Do you think Jesus would forgive him?

We are going to pretend that we are Peter and write a letter. We are going to retell the events of what happened on that very night explaining what he did and he is feeling because of his actions.

Firstly, let's think of some words to describe Peter and what he did.



Dear Mum,

I am writing to you to tell you about something awful that happened to me today. I feel so ashamed of myself as I have done a truly, terrible thing because I, yes I your son, denied knowing and loving my Lord, Jesus. How could I do such a thing?

This morning, I was with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane when armed guards came to arrest him. That traitor, Judas, came over and kissed Jesus on the cheek so the guards would know who he was. I was so angry that I used my sword to protect Jesus and cut off one of the soldier's ears. But, Jesus told me to stop and I did as he asked. Then, Jesus healed the soldier's ear. Even though they were here to arrest him, he helped someone who needed it. As they led Jesus away, I fell to my knees and wept. I felt so lost and alone.

I knew I had to find out what was happening so I followed the soldiers to where they had taken him. I wasn't able to see what was happening and it was getting very late so I warmed myself in the courtyard with the guards. A few moments later, I heard a girl shouting at me saying 'You were with that Jesus of Nazareth!' I replied, 'No I wasn't!' realising what was happening. I remembered, Jesus had told me I would deny him. Then another person shouted the same thing and again, I denied Jesus. This happened one more time and then I heard it. The cockerel crowed. I had failed.

So, Mum. I am a failure. I have let my Lord down. I am not worthy of my name, 'Peter, the rock'. How will he ever forgive me? I am not even able to go and ask for forgiveness as I am not allowed to see him.

What must you think of me?

Your son,

Peter

Begin the letter correctly
(comma)

Explain why you are
writing

Include thoughts and
feelings

Write in the past tense

Write in the first
person – I, me, my

End the letter
correctly

Garden of Gethsemane

ashamed

awful

weak soldiers arrested

healed followed

courtyard

denied

Rock strong forgive forgiveness