

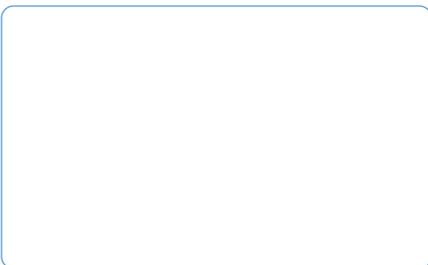
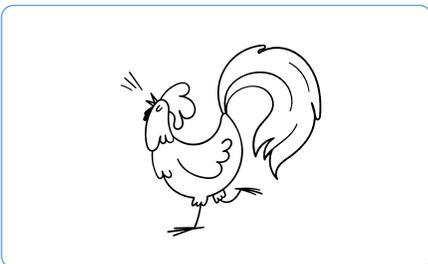


experience
lent

Peter's Denial

John 18:15-18, 25-27

Circle the pictures of words you hear in the story or draw your own.



The mob of soldiers and angry people disappeared into the dark. The garden was quiet again. The disciples were left there without Jesus – all except two that is.

After Jesus was arrested, Simon Peter and another one of Jesus' disciples followed safely behind the group as he was taken away. They were worried and didn't want to leave their friend. When they arrived at the courtyard of the high priest, Peter could not follow them because the high priest did not know him. The other disciple was allowed to enter the courtyard though, so he sent a servant who was working for the high priest out to get Peter.

As she approached Peter, she asked, "You aren't one of Jesus' disciples too, are you?" It didn't seem like a good thing to be a follower of Jesus.

Peter got nervous. He responded, "I am not," even though he was.

It was a cold day. Peter shivered. He wanted to warm himself by a fire, but those who did not like Jesus were gathered around it. He was freezing though, so he joined the group by the fire, but he tried to blend into the group.

However, while Peter was standing at the fire, someone asked, "You aren't one of Jesus' disciples too, are you?"

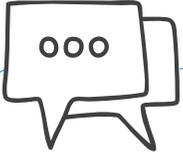
Peter quickly declared, "I am not." He was getting worried. He had been asked twice now if he followed Jesus. What if someone actually found out he was a disciple?

Again, a soldier noticed Peter and thought he looked familiar. He thought Peter was the man who struck their family member with his sword in the garden. He was almost sure of it and pressed, "Didn't I see you at the garden with Jesus?"

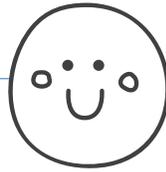
Peter panicked and denied Jesus, the Messiah, for a third time. As the rooster crowed, Peter remembered that Jesus had predicted that someone would deny him three times before the rooster crowed, but Peter promised that he would never do that. Peter felt terrible for what he had done and began to cry.

Listen to this story outside in the cold. Imagine you are like Peter— you have been waiting outside for a long time and you have no idea how much longer you will be there. Would you hide some things about yourself so you could be accepted? What are things you wouldn't hide no matter what?

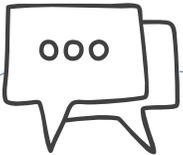
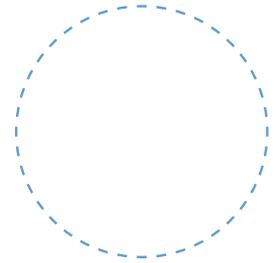




Share what you wonder about the story with the person who read it to you.



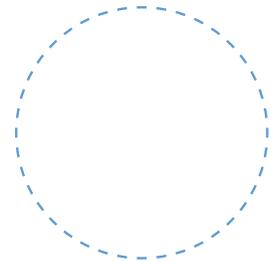
Jesus might have felt...
[draw a picture to show his feelings]



Share a story of a time when you hid or changed something about yourself so others would like you.



Back then, I felt...



Family Time Ideas

- **Practice:** As a follower of Jesus, share specific stories of how you have seen God work in your life. What are things God has done for you or taught you?
- **Fast:** Make a point of sharing positive stories this week rather than negative ones.
- **Feast:** Make a delicious meal to share with other followers of Jesus. Ask them to share their stories about the good work God has done in their lives.

Write or draw your prayer here.

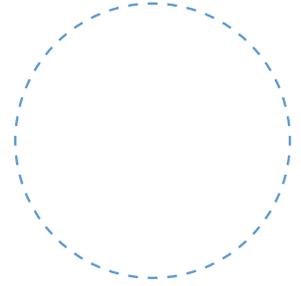




I wonder...



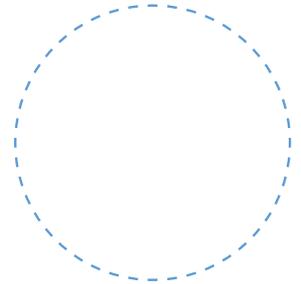
Jesus might have felt...
[draw a picture to show his feelings]



Write about a time when you hid something about yourself so others would like you.



Back then, I felt...



Family Time Ideas

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Write your prayer here.



experience lent

Read

Consider reading the story a few times as you reflect and respond. You could use another translation of the Bible that you have at home, an app, or online to hear the story a little differently, maybe even read a kids version.

PETER DENIES JESUS

John 18:15-18, 25-27 [MSG]

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. That other disciple was known to the Chief Priest, and so he went in with Jesus to the Chief Priest's courtyard. Peter had to stay outside. Then the other disciple went out, spoke to the doorkeeper, and got Peter in.

The young woman who was the doorkeeper said to Peter, "Aren't you one of this man's disciples?"

He said, "No, I'm not."

The servants and police had made a fire because of the cold and were huddled there warming themselves. Peter stood with them, trying to get warm.

Meanwhile, Simon Peter was back at the fire, still trying to get warm. The others there said to him, "Aren't you one of his disciples?"

He denied it, "Not me."

One of the Chief Priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, said, "Didn't I see you in the garden with him?"

Again, Peter denied it. Just then a rooster crowed.

Use the blank space on this page to write or doodle what you picture as you read the story or find the coloring page for this story to color.



Reflect

What did you wonder about in this story?

What did you find new or interesting in this story?

What word[s] or phrase stuck out to you in the passage?

How do you imagine Jesus felt in this story?

Think of a time when you felt that way. How did you respond?

Respond

Really notice the feelings the story evoked and the things that stood out to you in it. Use the following questions to consider how you can respond to this story.

What does this story tell me about who God is? And who I am?

What might that mean for how I live my life?

What might God be calling me to in response to this story?

Application Ideas

- **Practice:** As a follower of Jesus, share specific stories of how you have seen God work in your life. What are things God has done for you or taught you?
- **Fast:** Make a point of sharing positive stories this week rather than negative ones.
- **Feast:** Make a delicious meal to share with other followers of Jesus. Ask them to share their stories about the good work God has done in their lives.

Write your prayer here.

