

HomeWord⁺ For Parents

After the soldiers arrested Jesus, Peter followed them into the high priest's courtyard and warmed himself near the fire the servants had prepared (Mark 14:54). One of the servant girls accused him of being with Jesus. But he quickly denied it. A rooster crowed. Again, the servant girl saw him and said Peter had been with Jesus. Again, Peter quickly denied it. Later, the girl said his Galilean speech gave Peter away—he WAS a disciple of Jesus. Peter denied His Lord a third time. This denial was accompanied by swearing and a curse that he did not know the one who had been arrested. That is when Peter heard the rooster crow the second time, and he was reminded of Jesus's warning that Peter would very soon deny Him three times (Mark 14:66–72).

In the midst of Peter's final denial, the Lord turned and looked at him (Luke 22:61). Many believe this look was not a look of anger but of tenderness, sorrow, and pity. This look from Jesus brought Peter to conviction, humility, and repentance. He immediately went out and wept bitterly (Luke 22:62).

In the next few days Jesus would be falsely accused, crucified, and then resurrected from the grave. Shortly after His Resurrection, the Bible tells us that Jesus appeared to the disciples on three different occasions (John 20:19, 20:26, 21:4). During the third visit with His disciples, Jesus directly addressed Peter. It is during this conversation that Jesus asked Peter to confirm his love for His Savior. Jesus did not ask once, but three times, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" (John 21:15–17). Many believe that by repeating His question three times, Jesus was reminding Peter of the three times that, just days before, he had denied even knowing Jesus. This time, Peter answered earnestly. "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You" (John 21:15).

Peter had denied Christ three times. Jesus then gave Peter the opportunity to proclaim his love for Him three times. After that, Jesus commissioned Peter to go and "Feed the lambs" three times. This charge, and the responsibility that went with it, left no doubt that Peter had been forgiven and restored as an ambassador for Jesus Christ.

Go to the Online Resource Page for more information.

OutWord⁺ For Family Discussion

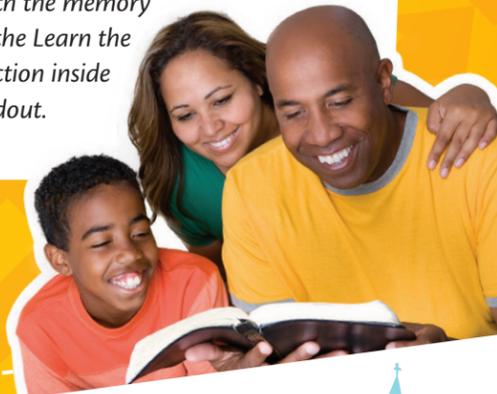
Suppose your friend was telling you he wants to be a Christian because he wants to go to heaven. But he doesn't want to change his life. **What could you say?**

Being a Christian is more than worrying about going to heaven or hell. God made a way to get to heaven, and heaven is going to be wonderful! But choosing that way WILL include some changes in your life. You see, we are all sinners. We like our sin, and we don't really want to stop it. But God hates sin. And if we are not forgiven of our sins, we can't get to heaven at all! That is where Jesus comes in. Jesus died on the Cross to take the punishment we deserve for our sins. We can only be forgiven of our sins through Jesus! And we won't get His forgiveness unless we repent. Repentance is turning AWAY from our sins and turning TO Jesus. True repentance brings with it the desire to follow Jesus and obey His Word—the Bible! Being a Christian is wonderful! Hoping for heaven is wonderful! But I can guarantee your life WILL change—and you will WANT it to change when you repent and trust Jesus.

inWord⁺ For Family Study

"Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). You want your children to walk in God's way, on His path. Only His Word can direct them. Help them to know His Word. Study and memorize it together as a family.

Begin with the memory verse in the Learn the Word section inside this handout.



Peter's Denial

KEY THEME

- God is merciful toward sinners.

KEY PASSAGES

- Mark 14:66–72
- John 21:15–17



What You HEARD in the WORD

- Peter was afraid and denied Jesus three times during Jesus's trials. He was sorry when he realized what he had done.
- Jesus showed Peter He had forgiven him when He called Peter to profess his love three times and called Peter to minister to the church.

Answer these questions from today's lesson.

- 1 How many times did Peter deny Jesus?
- 2 When the rooster crowed the second time, what did Peter do?
- 3 What did Jesus ask Peter three times?



1) Three. 2) He wept because he was sorry for what he had done. 3) Do you love me?

Read the Word

Monday {Mark 14:27}

Who would stumble in their faith the night Jesus was arrested?

Tuesday {Mark 14:30}

Peter did not think he would stumble. What did Jesus say to that?

Wednesday {Luke 22:61-62}

What happened after Peter denied Jesus and the rooster crowed?

Thursday {Mark 14:47}

What did Peter do when the people came to arrest Jesus?

Friday {Mark 14:43}

Who came the night Jesus was betrayed to take Him away?

Saturday {Matthew 28:19}

Where should believers go to tell about Jesus? (Your Memory Verse!)

Learn the Word

Unscramble the words and fill in the blanks

Go therefore and make _____

dsilpesci

of all the _____,

tnaonis

baptizing them in the name of the

_____ and of the Son and

hFtrea

of the _____ Spirit.

lHoy

Matthew 28:19

LIVE the Word

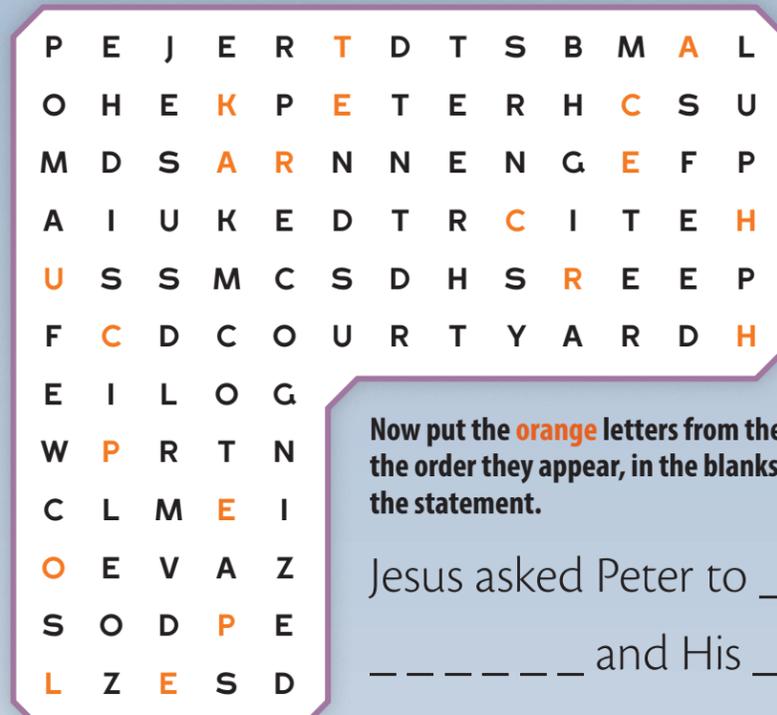
Suppose you hear someone say he will follow God and never ever fall away. **What could you say?**

There are days when we feel so close to God that we don't think we could ever sin against Him. But it is important to remember that even on our very best days, we are still sinners. We need to be careful. The Bible tells us that even the strongest men of God fell into sin and had to humbly repent and ask forgiveness. It is only by God's grace and through His strength in us that we can avoid sinning. When we stay close to God, read His Word, pray, stay away from people who are bad influences, and try to keep our thoughts on God, then we'll be prepared to say no to sin. When we think we are good enough or strong enough because of who are, we may be ready to stumble into something bad.



JESUS FORGIVES PETER

Find the words from our lesson in the word search puzzle. Then put all the **orange** letters, in order, in the blanks below to find out what Jesus meant when He asked Peter to feed His sheep.



- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| COURTYARD | RECOGNIZED |
| DENIED | ROOSTER |
| DISCIPLE | SHEEP |
| FEED | TEND |
| FIRE | THREE |
| LAMBS | PETER |
| LOVE | JESUS |
| PETER | |

Now put the **orange** letters from the word search, in the order they appear, in the blanks below to complete the statement.

Jesus asked Peter to _____ of His
_____ and His _____.

PETER IN THE COURTYARD

Some of the words in this paragraph are wrong. The mistakes are in orange. Cross off the words that are mistakes, and write the correct on the lines provided. Then tell someone what really happened.

Disciples, Crowed, Deny, Knowing, Rooster, Servant, Twice, Waiting, Warming

When Peter was in the courtyard ¹feeding himself and ²reading to see what would happen _____
to Jesus, a ³rich girl and others recognized him as one of Jesus's ⁴sheriffs. When asked, Peter

denied even ⁵seeing Jesus three different times. A ⁶bee ⁷buzzed for the second time. Peter

remembered that Jesus said before the rooster crows ⁸five times, he

would ⁹sing to Him three times.



ANSWERS: 1) Warming, 2) Waiting, 3) Servant, 4) Disciples, 5) Knowing, 6) Rooster, 7) Crowed, 8) Twice, 9) Deny.

ANSWERS: Jesus asked Peter to take care of His church and His people.