



3

Peter's Denial

Key Theme

- God is merciful toward sinners.

Key Passages

- Mark 14:66–72; John 21:15–17

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Describe what Peter did in the courtyard the night of Jesus's arrest.
- Describe how Jesus showed Peter he was forgiven.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will practice the memory verse by completing the Memory Verse Review Sheet. If time allows, they will recite the verse to a partner or to the teacher.



Activity 1: Peter's Denial Class Notes

Students will fill out Peter's Denial Class Notes as you study the lesson.



Studying God's Word

The night Jesus was arrested, Peter followed behind Jesus and the guards to see what would happen. As Peter waited in the courtyard, he was recognized as one of Jesus's disciples. Peter denied knowing Jesus three times in a row that evening because he was afraid. When he realized what he had done, he was sorry and wept. Later, after the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to Peter, and Peter was able to tell his Lord that he loved Him! Three times Jesus asked if Peter loved Him. Three times Peter answered yes! Jesus forgave Peter and commissioned him as a leader in the church.



Activity 2: Truth Be Told Review Game

Students will review the lesson by playing the Truth Be Told Review Game.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- Print the Memory Verse Review Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Memory Verse Review Sheet for each student



PETER'S DENIAL CLASS NOTES

- Print one Peter's Denial Class Notes from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- Peter's Denial Class Notes for each student
- Peter's Denial Answer Key
- Pencils



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.
- Print one each of the Board Work Pictures from the Resource DVD-ROM. Keep the Lesson Board Work Outline for your use.
- Pass the 8 Board Work Pictures out to students to be used during the lesson.

- Student Take Home Sheets
- Lesson Theme Posters
- Board Work Pictures
- Lesson Board Work Outline
- Tape or poster putty



TRUTH BE TOLD REVIEW GAME

- Assemble the Truth Be Told Game Board Posters found in your curriculum kit.
- Print the Truth Be Told Game Components from the Resource DVD-ROM. Keep the Truth Be Told Question Answer Key for your use.
- Cut apart the Truth Be Told Number Cards. These will determine how many spaces to move. OR bring in dice or a game spinner to be used to move teams around the board.
- Cut apart the Truth Be Told Question Cards.

- Truth Be Told Game Board
- Truth Be Told Number Cards OR use dice or a game spinner
- Truth Be Told Question Cards
- Truth Be Told Question Answer Key
- Buttons or other small items as game pieces for each team
- Poster putty



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW GAME (OPTIONAL)

- This is an optional activity to use in some or all of the lessons to review the memory verse if time allows.

- Memory Verse Poster



Memory Verse

Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages listed above with this background.

The Bible records that on the night of His arrest, Jesus was led away to the high priest and an assembly of the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes (Mark 14:53). His dear friend and apostle, Peter, was following behind at a safe distance. Peter had followed into the high priest's courtyard and was warming himself near the fire the servants had prepared (Mark 14:54). This was where Peter would soon deny the promised Messiah of whom Moses and the prophets had written (John 1:45).

Just hours before, Peter had witnessed Judas, the betrayer, leading a great crowd of men with swords and clubs to arrest Jesus (Mark 14:43). Peter had courageously drawn his sword to fight back—and cut off the ear of one of the men (Mark 14:47). (It is interesting to note that the doctor, Luke, is the only Gospel writer to record that Jesus miraculously healed this man's ear [Luke 22:51].)

Now, here at the fire, in the night, Peter was recognized by one of the servant girls. She accused him of having been with Jesus. But he quickly denied it. This denial was accompanied by the first of two rooster crows. Again, the servant girl saw him and charged Peter that he had been with Jesus. Once more, Peter quickly denied this charge. Later, those standing nearby looked at Peter and claimed that his Galilean speech gave him away—he WAS a disciple of Jesus. And a third time, Peter denied His Lord with cursing and swearing that he did not know the one who had been arrested. Just then Peter heard the rooster crow the second time and was reminded of Jesus's warning that Peter would very soon deny Him three times (Mark 14:66–72). And in the midst of this final denial, the Lord turned and looked at Peter (Luke 22:61).

What a look that must have been! The Master looked on His servant—the one who had declared just hours before that even if all the others left Jesus, he never would (Mark 14:29). Many believe this look was not a look of anger but of tenderness, sorrow, and pity. This loving look from Jesus brought Peter to conviction, humility, and repentance, and 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. We can only imagine Peter's anguish as the events of the crucifixion played out, and he remembered his last

testimony about his Savior—"I do not know this Man of whom you speak!" (Mark 14:71).

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 he had denied even knowing Jesus, just days before. This time, Peter answered earnestly, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You" (John 21:15).

Jesus's response to Peter was one of forgiveness and confidence in his friend whose faith had recently faltered out of weakness and fear. This confidence was exhibited once again when, three times, Jesus said to Peter, "Feed My lambs" (John 21:15); "Tend My sheep" (John 21:16); "Feed My sheep" (John 21:17). This was no easy task Jesus had called Peter to. But Peter had once and for all verified his love and loyalty to the Lord. In return the Lord presented him with the privilege of leading others and guiding them into the spiritual truths they would continue to need after Jesus's ascension.

Peter had denied Christ three times. Jesus then gave Peter the opportunity to proclaim his love for Christ 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.

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

When reading of the failings of Peter, we might be tempted to say, "How could he do that? If I had been there, I would not have denied Christ!" We ask ourselves, "How could a follower of Jesus—someone who walked with Jesus, witnessed His miracles, and heard His powerful teaching—deny even knowing Him?" Well, Peter gives us a profound lesson in the danger of self-confidence.

Peter had his moments of brilliance, like when he answered Jesus's inquiry about who He was. "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" was Peter's reply. And Jesus told Peter that it was not by his own wisdom that he knew this, but God had revealed the truth to Peter (Matthew 16:13–17). Another time, after

some hard sayings of Jesus, many of His disciples no longer followed Him. Jesus asked the twelve if they also wanted to go away. Peter replied, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (John 6:66–69).

It seems that Peter, maybe due to some of his successes, had developed a sense of self-confidence. When Jesus predicted His coming crucifixion and that His disciples would stumble, Peter proudly proclaimed, "Even if all are made to stumble, yet I will not be" (Mark 14:27–29). And when Jesus told Peter that Satan had requested to sift him like wheat, but Jesus had prayed that his faith would not fail, Peter boldly retorted, "Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death" (Luke 22:31–33). Then, when the soldiers came to arrest Jesus, it was Peter trying to prove his courage and his devotion who drew a sword and whacked off the ear of the servant of the high priest. In Peter's mind, he was faithful and invincible. But, he was dangerously overconfident.

Just a few hours later, Peter denied knowing Jesus three times. How could this happen? This was Peter, the great leader of the apostles—the one who showed such confidence and boldness! And note that this was not just a momentary slip-up, but Peter's denials occurred over a period of two hours. And while the first one may be excusable since he was caught off guard, the next two were most definitely deliberate and premeditated.

While we may criticize Peter for disowning his Lord, if we are honest, we must admit our own failings and our own shortcomings. We may have disowned the Lord, or shrunk back from acknowledging Him, or been afraid to stand up for our faith. And like Peter, we probably felt remorse for our failure.

There was another apostle who denied Jesus, who failed Him, who fell away. This was Judas, the one who betrayed Jesus. Judas, too, felt remorse. But he went out and hanged himself (Matthew 27:3–5). Peter, instead, wept bitterly, but his faith did not fail. He showed up at the tomb on Sunday. He was in the upper room with the other disciples. Though he failed, he was not destroyed; he persevered in faith. What was the difference between Peter and Judas? Judas was not a true believer in Jesus. Jesus called him a devil, unclean, and the son of perdition (John 6:70–71, 13:10–11, 17:12). Though Judas felt sorrow for his actions, it was not godly sorrow that leads to repentance, but worldly sorrow that leads to death (2 Corinthians 7:10). Peter, on the other hand, was a true believer. His sorrow did lead to repentance and restoration.

In Luke 22, Jesus predicted that Peter would deny Him. But Jesus also said He had prayed for Peter, that his faith would not fail. And Peter's faith did not fail.

He stood up on the day of Pentecost and preached a powerful sermon—and 3,000 were converted. Peter continued to preach—and tens of thousands were converted in Jerusalem.

What can we learn from Peter's denials? First of all, we must be very cautious in our self-confidence. We are human; we are frail; we are not exempt from falling into sin or from denying our Lord. The Bible warns us about misplaced self-confidence:

1 Corinthians 10:12 – "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall."

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted."

The second thing we can learn from Peter's experience is that God is faithful. As Jesus prayed for Peter's faith not to fail, so He ever lives to intercede for us: "Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25). As Peter was forgiven by Christ, so we, too, can be forgiven as we confess our sins: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). God has promised to continue the work He has begun in us. Paul told the believers in Philippi that he was "confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:6). Praise God that those whom He predestined, called, and justified, He will also glorify (Romans 8:30)!

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Precious Jesus, your love and mercy are measureless. The way you loved and forgave Peter encourages me. Guard my heart and mind from the fear of man. Forgive me for the times I have been embarrassed or afraid to speak up for you. Lord, I pray my students will submit their lives to you at a young age and stand firm on the authority of Scripture. May they grow to be bold to proclaim your name even in difficult situations. Convict them of the sin in their lives. Use this lesson and Peter's example to show them that you are merciful when we turn to you in true repentance.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will complete the Memory Verse Review Sheet. If time allows, have the students recite the verse together, to each other, or to you.

This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided an activity sheet on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Peter's Denial Class Notes

MATERIALS

- Peter's Denial Class Notes for each student
- Peter's Denial Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Print one class notes for each student. Pass them out at the beginning of class. Have students circle the correct answers as you study the lesson.

The class notes are designed and written simply. Please encourage and help your students to read them as the class progresses. They are an excellent means to review important lesson principles.

We will be circling the right answers on the class notes as we study the Bible today. Do not work ahead. We'll do it together during the class.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

As we work on the class notes, we will talk about Jesus's disciple, Peter, and what he did the night Jesus was arrested.



Studying God's Word

READ THE WORD

Refer to Lessons 1 and 2 Lesson Theme Posters. After the Passover dinner, Jesus was betrayed by one of His apostles. To betray means to be disloyal to someone and to deliver him to an enemy.

- ? Who betrayed Jesus and led the Jews to find Him in the garden? What was his name? *Judas.*

➤ Because of the age and ability of 1st and 2nd graders to read and comprehend, we have written these lessons for you to read the Scriptures to the students. However, please encourage your students to bring Bibles to class. And if you have strong readers, by all means have them participate by reading God's Word.

Mark 14:66–68

➤ Use the New Testament History Poster included with your teacher kit as you teach the lesson. Emphasize that Jesus ministered only 3 years, and He lived only about 35 years. Yet His life changed the world forever and brought eternal life to all who believe.

The Jewish leaders were jealous of Jesus and wanted Him to die! They took Jesus to Pilate, the Roman governor, and wanted him to kill Jesus. But Pilate was not in charge, was he?

? Who was in control of everything? *God.*

Yes. God had a plan since the beginning of time. And now, Jesus's life on earth would soon end. His mission was almost complete.

? Let's think back a bit. What happened to Jesus while He was in the garden? *He was arrested. He was taken away.*

That's right. Judas led the officers of an army to the garden so they could take Jesus away.

And as they took Jesus to be questioned, the Apostle Peter followed behind. Peter ended up near the place where Jesus was being tried. And that is what we will be reading about today. First, I am going to hand out these pictures to you. Hold onto your picture until it's time to put it up on the board. *Pass out the 8 Board Work Pictures.*

Remember, this is about Peter. And it happened after Jesus was arrested. I am going to start with Mark 14:66–68 today. Listen carefully so you can answer the questions. *Read Mark 14:66–68 with enthusiasm.*

EXAMINE THE WORD

Re-read the verses or the portion of the verse(s) that answer the questions you are asking of the text.

Observe the Text

? Think back to the first verse I read, Mark 14:66. Where was Peter? *Re-read Mark 14:66. In the courtyard.*

Right! So Peter followed the crowd as they took Jesus to the house of the high priest. Peter was probably not allowed to go into the house, but he wanted to be close to where Jesus was. So, Peter waited out in the courtyard by the fire to stay warm.

? And who else was there? Who came and talked to Peter? *Re-read Mark 14:66. A servant girl of the high priest.*

? Who has the first picture, #1? Bring it up and put it on the board for us, please. *Have student bring Board Work Picture #1 up and attach it to the board according to the Lesson Board Work Outline.*

? What did the girl say to Peter? Look at the picture! *Re-read Mark 14:67. You were with Jesus!*

? Was Peter with Jesus in the garden that night? *Yes.*

? Yes, Peter was with Jesus, but what did he say to the girl? *Re-read Mark 14:68. He denied it. He said he didn't know what she was talking about.*

? What does that word *deny* mean? *Allow discussion. Saying something is not true.*

To deny something is to say that it's not true. So Peter was saying the girl was wrong and that he had NOT been with Jesus. Huh . . . that's kind of strange, isn't it? We know Peter was right there with Jesus in the garden.

? Let me read that verse again. What did Peter hear after he said he didn't know Jesus? *Re-read Mark 14:68. A rooster crowed.*

? Now, who has Picture #2? Will you show it to us and put it on the board? What is it? *A rooster. Have student bring Board Work Picture #2 up and attach it to the board according to the Lesson Board Work Outline.*

Peter heard a rooster crowing. We'll talk about that in a minute.

But he wasn't finished in the courtyard. He denied being with Jesus once. Listen to what happened next! I am going to read Mark 14:69–70. *Read Mark 14:69–70a.*

? The servant girl started talking to the other people there. What did she say this time? *The servant girl told the others that Peter was of one them.*

? OK. And what did Peter do? *He denied it again.*

? Who has Picture #3? Put that up for us, please. *Have student bring Board Work Picture #3 up and attach it to the board.*

Yes! The girl told the other people who were standing around that Peter knew Jesus. But Peter said, "No!"

Well, Peter wasn't finished yet! Listen to this! *Read Mark 14:70b.*

? Now what happened? What did the other people say to Peter? *You are one of them. You are a Galilean.*

Right! Now the people around Peter were sure that he had been with Jesus in the past. This was the third time someone asked Peter if he knew Jesus.

? What did Peter do this time when they said he knew Jesus? *Re-read Mark 14:71. He began to curse and swear. He said, "I do not know this Man."*

? Who has the next picture, #4? Bring that up and put it on the board. *Have student bring Board Work Picture #4 up and attach it to the board.*

Peter was getting angry. He did not want anyone to know that he knew Jesus!

? Then something happened after Peter said, for the THIRD time, that he did not know Jesus. What did Peter hear again? Listen for the answer. *Read Mark 14:72. The rooster crowed a second time.*

Deny: To say something is not true.

Mark 14:69–70a

Mark 14:70b–71

Mark 14:72

- ? Let's put up Picture #5 now. Who has that one? *Have student bring Board Work Picture #5 up and attach it to the board.*

When he heard the rooster crow again, Peter suddenly remembered something Jesus had told him. This explains it, listen! *Re-read all of Mark 14:72.*

Jesus had told Peter earlier that he would deny Jesus three times before the rooster crowed twice.

- ? And what did Peter do when he heard the rooster and remembered Jesus's words? *Re-read Mark 14:72. He thought about it and he wept.*

Discover the Truth

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster and board. Peter was one of Jesus's very best friends! He had just celebrated the Passover meal with Jesus just a few hours earlier. And now when Jesus was in trouble, Peter said he did not even know Him! Peter was afraid! He wanted to be near Jesus and see what was going on, but he didn't want to say that he knew Him! After all, they had arrested Jesus and taken Him away. Peter was afraid he might be arrested, too, because he knew Jesus. But as soon as Peter heard the rooster crow the second time, he remembered what Jesus had said—that he would deny that he even knew Jesus. And now, as Peter thought about what he had done, he went away and wept. The Bible says Peter wept bitterly; he cried very hard. He was so sorry that he had denied that he knew his Savior.

Let's review a bit. Look at your class notes. The pictures on the board might help you come up with the right answer.

- ? Will someone read #1? Which answer is correct? Circle the right one. *Assign a reader. Three. Have students complete #1.*
- ? And what about #2? Someone read that please. *Assign a reader. Rooster. Have students complete #2.*
- ? And someone read #3 for us? What is the answer? *Assign a reader. Wept. Have students complete #3.*
- ? Someone read #4. Which one is correct? *Assign a reader. Afraid. Have students complete #4.*



READ THE WORD

Peter was afraid. He denied even knowing Jesus. But that isn't the way this night ended. In the next few hours, after Peter denied Jesus, the people lied about Jesus. Then they mocked Him by making fun of Him and saying mean things about Him. They beat Jesus, and they finally killed Him by hanging Him on the Cross.

Poor Peter! Peter said he did not know Jesus. And then Jesus died on the Cross.

? And how many times did Peter deny Jesus? *Three times.*

That's right. He did that three times! Peter must have felt terrible . . . and very sad, because he really did love Jesus.

? But what happened to Jesus on the third day after He was buried in the tomb? *He rose from the dead.*

Yes! Jesus rose from the dead. He is alive again! And after He rose, He appeared to His disciples. He wanted them to know that He was alive again—just like God planned it.

We are going to read John 21:15–17. This tells of a time Jesus came and talked with His disciples AFTER He rose from the dead. This part happened right after they had eaten breakfast! And Jesus was about to talk to Peter.

? What do you think Jesus said to Peter? Was He mad at Peter for saying he didn't know Him? Or did Jesus forgive Peter? *Allow discussion.*

? Let's read John 21:15–17 so we can find out for sure just what Jesus said. *Read John 21:15–17.*

John 21:15–17

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

So, let's go back to our board work.

? Who has Picture #6? Let's put that one up now. *Have student bring Board Work Picture #6 up and attach it to the board.*

? In the verses I just read, who was Jesus talking to? *John 21:15. Simon Peter.*

Yes! This was the first time Jesus talked to Peter since Peter had denied knowing Him.

? And what did Jesus ask Peter? *Re-read John 21:15. Do you love Me?*

? What was Peter's answer? *John 21:15. Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.*

? Then what did Jesus tell Peter to do? Did you hear it? I'll read it again. *Re-read John 21:15. Feed My lambs.*

? OK. Now bring up Picture #7. *Have student bring Board Work Picture #7 up and attach it to the board. I'll read John 21:16 again.*

? What did Jesus ask Peter in this verse? *Re-read John 21:16. Do you love Me?*

? What was Peter's answer? *John 21:16. Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.*

? What did Jesus tell Peter to do? Listen again. *Re-read John 21:16. Tend My sheep.*

Hmmm. What is Jesus doing? He is asking Peter the same question, isn't He? And Jesus wasn't finished, yet.

➤ Re-read the verses or the portion of the verse(s) that answer the questions you are asking of the text.

Let's take a look at the next picture. Who has Picture #8? Will you put that up for us? *Have student bring Board Work Picture #8 up and attach it to the board.*

- ? Listen again to John 21:17. What did Jesus ask a third time? *Re-read John 21:17. Do you love Me?*
- ? And what did Peter say? *Lord, You know all things; You know that I love you.*
- ? Then what did Jesus say to Peter? *Feed My sheep.*
- ? Let's think about this for a moment. What was Jesus talking about when He told Peter to care for His sheep and His lambs? Was Jesus raising sheep or something else? *Allow discussion. The sheep are believers.*

Well, Jesus wasn't raising sheep, was He? But remember how we learned that He is called the Good Shepherd? Jesus is the Good Shepherd over His church—that means all the people who believe in Him. Those who believe and trust in Jesus are His sheep. You see, Jesus knew He was leaving His disciples very soon to go back to His Father in heaven. And Jesus was giving Peter a job to do. He wanted Peter to teach, train, help, and love other believers. Jesus wanted Peter to care for His flock—His church.

- ? Now, what do I mean when I say "His church"? *Allow discussion. All believers.*

We're not talking about a building here. The church is made up of all those who believe in Jesus and trust in Him as their Savior. Way back then, the church was brand new, and Jesus was giving Peter a big job to do. Jesus was telling Peter to lead and teach the believers.

Discover the Truth

Remember, it wasn't very long before this in the garden that Peter had said he didn't even know Jesus. Then Jesus died, and Peter didn't know if he would ever talk to Jesus again. But Jesus rose from the dead, found Peter, and talked with him about these things.

- ? Do you remember how many times Peter denied Jesus in the courtyard? Look at #1 on your class notes if you need a hint. *Three times.*
- ? Right! And how many times did Jesus ask Peter, "Do you love Me?" *Refer to board. Three times.*
- ? And how many times did Jesus tell Peter to feed His sheep? *Three times.*

Peter cried after he had denied Jesus by saying he didn't know Him. He had turned away from his Savior and friend three times! But after Jesus rose from the grave, He spoke to Peter again and gave Peter a chance to tell Him three times that he really did love Him! And then Jesus told Peter

to go and take care of His sheep. Peter was to lead the church of believers and teach them about loving and obeying God.

- ? Will someone read #5 on your class notes for us please? What is the answer to that? *Assign a reader. Love. Have students complete #5.*
- ? And what about #6? Which one will you circle? *Assign a reader. Forgave. Have students complete #6.*
- ? Will someone read #7 for us please? What is the answer to that? *Assign a reader. Sheep. Have students complete #7.*
- ? Will someone read #8 for us please? What is the answer to that? *Assign a reader. People. Have students complete #8.*

If time allows, do a quick review of each point on the class notes.



Truth Be Told Review Game

MATERIALS

- Truth Be Told Game Board
- Truth Be Told Question Cards
- Truth Be Told Question Answer Key
- Truth Be Told Number Cards (or other means to determine spaces to be moved for correct answers)
- Buttons or other small items as game pieces for each team
- Poster putty

INSTRUCTIONS

Divide your class into teams. Teams will take turns drawing a Truth Be Told Question Card. Team members will take turns answering the questions. They will quickly determine an answer and give it. If they are correct, they will draw a Truth Be Told Number Card and move that number of spaces on the game board. As play proceeds, follow the directions on the game board. Alternate between teams as long as time permits.

We are going to review now by playing "Truth Be Told." I'll put you into teams. Teams will take turns picking a question card and answering the question. If the answer is correct, you will draw a number card and

move your game piece that many spaces. All directions on the board must be followed. Place used cards underneath the stacks. *Answers to the questions are provided on the Truth Be Told Question Answer Key on the Resource DVD-ROM.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

This game was a fun way to review. *Congratulate the winning team.*

Peter denied Jesus three times in one night. He was afraid of what men might do to him. And when he heard the rooster, Peter cried because he was sorry for what he had done. But after His death and Resurrection, Jesus came to Peter. Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him, and Peter said, "Yes!" all three times. Jesus forgave Peter for denying Him. And then Jesus showed that He trusted Peter to do His work. He told Peter to feed His sheep and lambs. He was calling Peter to be a leader and a teacher to believers in the church.





Memory Verse Review Game (Optional)

Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

If you find you have extra time, please consider reviewing the memory verse with your class.

MATERIALS

- Memory Verse Poster

INSTRUCTIONS

Using the Memory Verse Poster, point to each word as you say it and have the students repeat.

After the review, divide the entire class into two groups. You can do boys and girls to start and then mix it up by age, by hair color, oldest or youngest in the family, etc. You will say a word or phrase of the memory verse while doing some sort of action— sit down, stand up, spin in a circle, touch your toes, etc. The groups will “echo” what you say and do as you continue through the verse. Repeat several times. You can whisper, shout, squeak, etc. Change it up. This will help them learn.

We’re going to practice our memory verse. I’m going to point to the words on the poster, and you repeat after me. *After reviewing from the poster move on to the echoing game.*

Now, we’re going to play our echoing game. Let’s divide the class into two groups. I want Group 1 to repeat what I say and do, then Group 2 will do it until we are all the way through our verse. Follow my actions and repeat my words as we go! Stand up and get ready now.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

? What does “all nations” mean? *Allow discussion.*

“All nations” means all the people in all the countries in the world. So Jesus wants all people, all over the world, to hear the truth about Him.

Let’s say it together one more time. *Repeat verse together.*



Applying God’s Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster and Board Work Display. Peter tried to stick close to Jesus after His arrest by following as closely as he could without being noticed. He ended up in the courtyard outside the house where Jesus was and waited to see what would happen to Jesus. You know what happened.

When people started saying he was one of Jesus's followers, Peter denied it three times. He even cursed and swore saying he didn't know Jesus. Then when Peter heard the rooster crow, he remembered that Jesus had told him this would happen. Peter left and wept because he was so sorry.

Refer to board. Then later, after Jesus's death and Resurrection, Jesus spoke to Peter. Peter had denied Jesus three times, and three times Jesus gave Peter a chance to tell Jesus that he loved Him.

Then He gave Peter an important job. He called Peter to be a teacher and leader in the church. Jesus was saying that He forgave Peter, He loved Peter, and He trusted Peter to do a big job.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

Peter was a follower of Jesus. He really loved Jesus. And yet, he acted like he didn't know Jesus when things got scary. That's not good! But we're all human. In our own strength, we are weak—no matter how much we love Jesus. We can't trust in ourselves to always do the right thing. But we can trust in God. And if we go to God and trust Him instead of thinking we can handle things all by ourselves, God will help us. Only God can give us the courage to do what is right! If we don't depend on Him, we might deny Jesus like Peter did when people start making fun of us, or things get tough. But if you stay in God's Word, pray every day, and ask God for help, it will be a lot easier to trust Him.



➤ Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



GROUP PRAYER TIME

- Pray that God will open the hearts of any who don't believe in Him.
- Ask God to show us when we've sinned against Him and to ask for forgiveness.
- Ask God to help us tell others about Jesus and His Word even when we are afraid they might make fun of us or stop being our friend.

