PETER AND THE ROOSTER

Peter was one of Jesus' first disciples. He spent a lot of time traveling with Jesus. He watched him perform miracles and heard him teach amazing lessons to huge crowds of people. Jesus was one of Peter's best friends.

At the last supper Jesus had with His disciples, He told them that He would be leaving soon. Peter asked, "Why can't I follow you now? I would give my life for you!"

But Jesus replied, "Will you really give your life for me? What I'm about to tell you is true. **Before the rooster crows, you will say <u>three times</u> that you don't know me!** "

At that moment Peter couldn't imagine denying that He knew Jesus! However, later that night, things changed...

Jesus and his disciples were together in the garden, when suddenly soldiers came to arrest Jesus! He was tied up and taken away. Peter and another disciple followed to where they took Jesus to find out what was happening.

The soldiers took Jesus in to see the high priest. Peter entered into the courtyard and, as he did, a servant woman asked him "You aren't one of Jesus' disciples too, are you?"

"I am not," Peter replied. He then went to warm himself by the fire.

Again, someone said to him, "You aren't one of Jesus' disciples too, are you"

And again, Peter replied, "I am not."

Then one of the high priests slaves looked at Peter and said "Didn't I see you with Jesus in the garden?"

Again, Peter said no... **and just at that moment the rooster began to crow!**

What Jesus had said came true. You might be wondering why Peter would deny knowing his best friend. The reason is **he was scared**. The Jewish leaders wanted to kill Jesus. They hated him and Peter was afraid that they would kill him, too.

But, the story doesn't end here. **Peter repented in his heart and when Jesus rose from the dead, he visited Peter and told him he forgave him .** Peter went on to be one of the key leaders in the early church and even wrote a couple books in the Bible!

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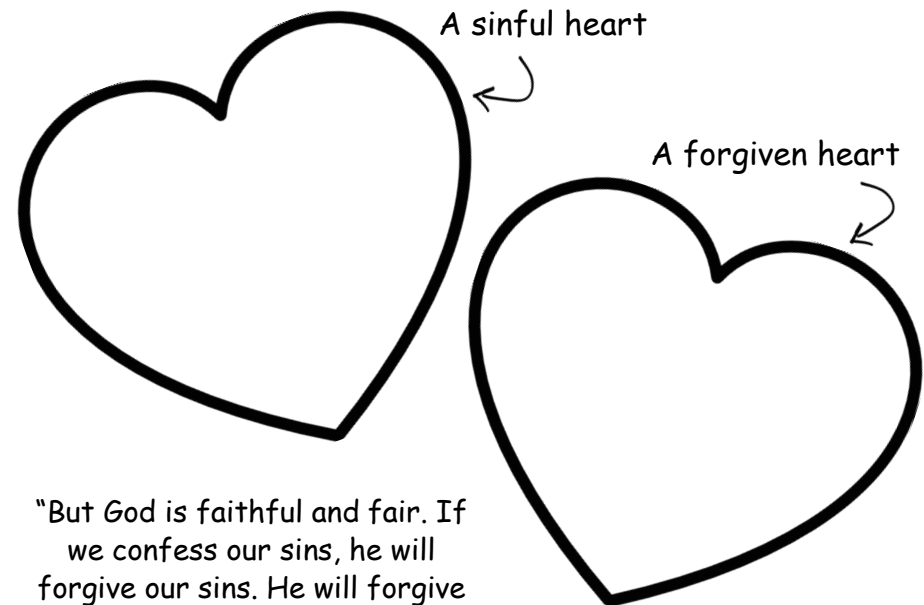How many times did Peter deny Jesus?

1 2 3 4 5

How many times did Jesus forgive Peter?

1 2 3 4 5 INFINITY

Jesus is ALWAYS forgiving!

We all sin and make mistakes. But Jesus promises that when we come to Him and admit what we did wrong, He will always forgive us and clean our hearts!

Color the hearts below:

A sinful heart

A forgiven heart

"But God is faithful and fair. If we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins. He will forgive every wrong thing we have done. He will make us pure."

1 John 1:9