
Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 10, Bible Truth 2

The Case of the Scaredy Cat Scat *Matthew 26-28; Mark 14-16; Luke 22-24; John 13-21; Acts 1-2*

(Numbers correspond to Bible story picture pages in Detective Dan's Big Question Box)

1. "My enemies are coming to kill Me. You will all leave Me," Jesus told His disciples, the night before He died on the cross. "But after I rise from the dead, I will meet you in Galilee," He promised them.
2. "Peter, before the rooster crows in the morning, you'll say you never knew Me three times. Satan wants to crush you, but I've prayed for you. When you turn back, encourage the others," Jesus told him. "No, Jesus, I won't leave You," Peter exclaimed.
3. Jesus comforted His disciples. They were so sad. "I'm going to heaven to make a place for you to live with Me forever," Jesus told them. "I'm going to ask God, My Father, to send the Holy Spirit to live in you and help you. It's better for you that I go, so He can come and live inside of you," Jesus said.
4. Soon, everything happened as Jesus said it would. Jesus' enemies came, led by Judas Iscariot, one of Jesus' disciples. "Teacher," Judas greeted Jesus, giving Him the usual brotherly kiss. The soldiers now knew who to arrest. They grabbed Jesus. What would the disciples do now?
5. Peter decided to fight for Jesus. He drew his sword and cut off the ear of Malchus, the servant of Jesus' most powerful enemy --the high priest. But Jesus would not fight. "This is God, My Father's, plan and I won't run from it," Jesus told Peter. Then, He reached out and healed Malchus' ear.
6. Now, Peter and the others understood. Jesus was choosing to die. They all panicked and ran away, just as Jesus said they would. Only after the soldiers had taken Jesus away, did Peter and John sneak back into Jerusalem, hiding safely in the shadows, to see what happened to Jesus.
7. But Peter wasn't safe. "YOU were with Jesus," a servant girl exclaimed when she saw him. "No, I wasn't! I never knew Him!" Peter lied THREE times. "Cock-a-doodle-doo!" Peter heard the rooster crow, then he ran away and cried. It all happened, as Jesus said it would. Peter was so sad.
8. Later that day, Jesus suffered and died on the cross. Friends took his body and buried it in a cave-grave. How very sad and scared Peter and the other disciples were. Enemies had killed Jesus. Would they be next? They locked the doors and hid in fear like scaredy cats.
9. But everything changed on Day Three. Jesus rose to life in victory! That night, He appeared to His disciples. "I'm alive!" He exclaimed, showing them the scars on His hands and feet. Jesus really was alive! He had beaten sin and death for God's people. The disciples were so happy.
10. Over the next 40 days, Jesus taught His followers from the Bible. He showed them how God's promises about the Savior had come true. He shared God's plans to use them to spread the good news of salvation to the world. But how could scaredy cats like them do anything as big as that?
11. There was only one way: God's Holy Spirit. "Go to Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit," Jesus told them, as He went up to heaven. "He will give you the courage to do all of God's plans," Jesus promised.
12. And so, He did! God sent the Holy Spirit to live in the hearts of Peter and the other believers. He gave them peace and joy, power, love, and COURAGE! No longer were they scared to speak up for Jesus in front of Jesus' enemies or anyone else. The Holy Spirit was God's Helper in their hearts.