

Bible for Children
presents

THE FIRST EASTER



Written by: Edward Hughes

Illustrated by: Janie Forest and Alastair
Paterson

Adapted by: Lyn Doerksen

Produced by: Bible for Children
www.M1914.org

©2020 Bible for Children, Inc.

License: You have the right to copy or
print this story,
as long as you do not sell it.

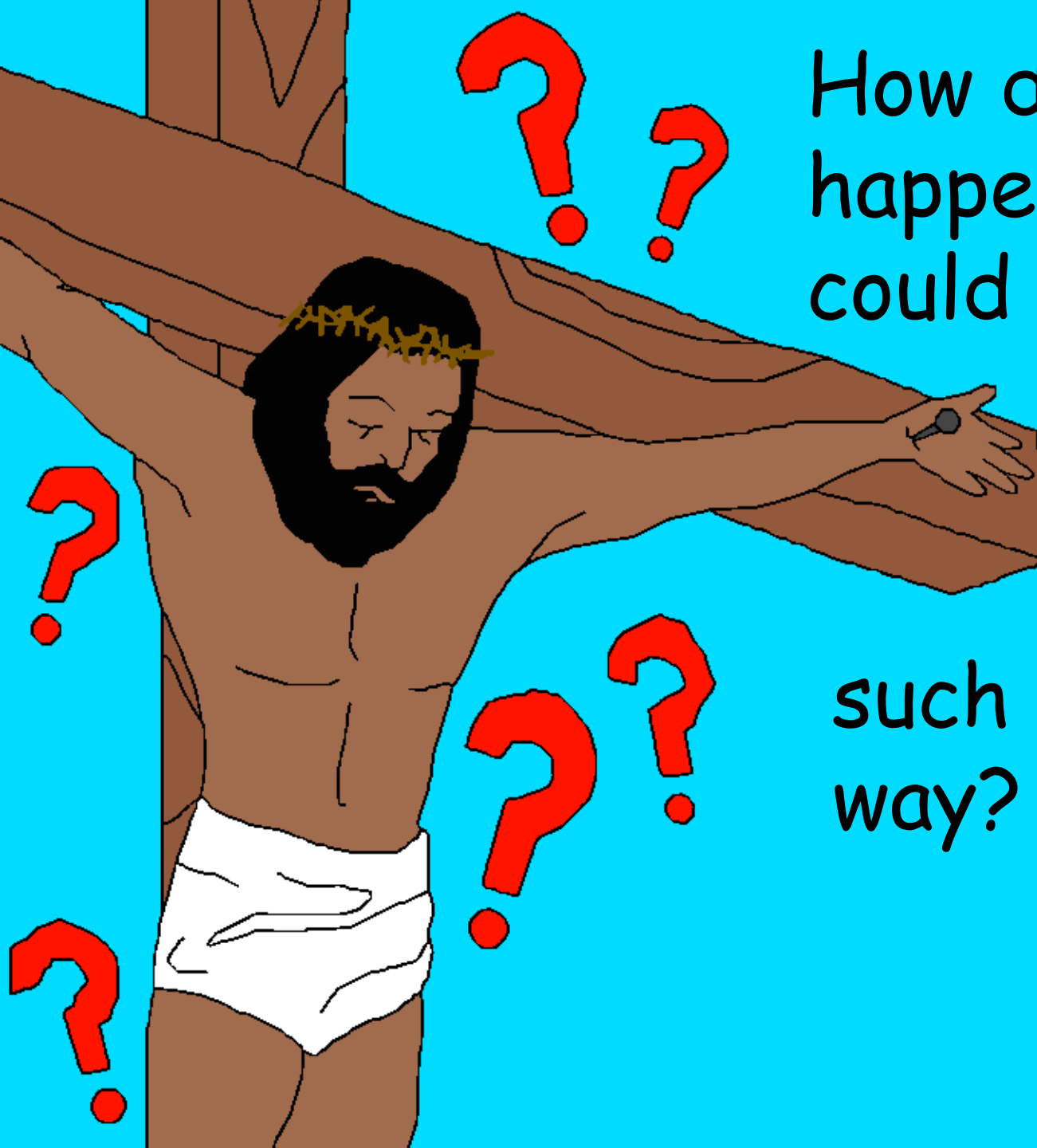


The lady stood on the
noisy hillside,
her sad eyes
looking up to
a terrible
scene. Her
Son was
dying.



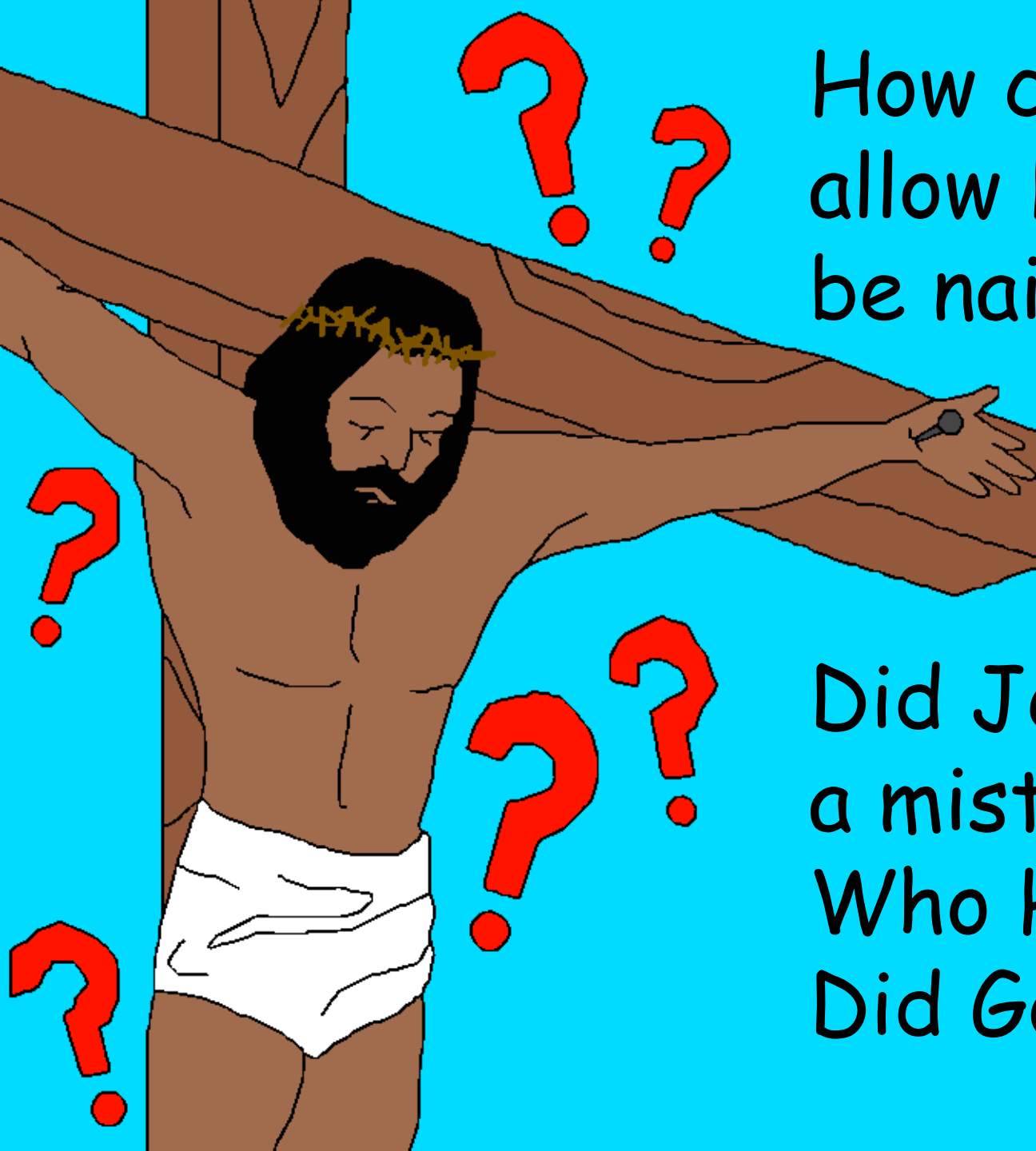
The mother was Mary,
and she stood
near the place
where Jesus
was nailed to
a cross.





How did all this happen? How could Jesus end such a beautiful life in such an awful way?





How could God allow His Son to be nailed to a cross to die there?

Did Jesus make a mistake about Who He was?
Did God fail?





No! God didn't fail.
Jesus hadn't made any
mistake. Jesus always
knew He would be put
to death by wicked
men. Even when
Jesus was a baby,
an old man named
Simeon had told Mary
that sadness lay ahead.



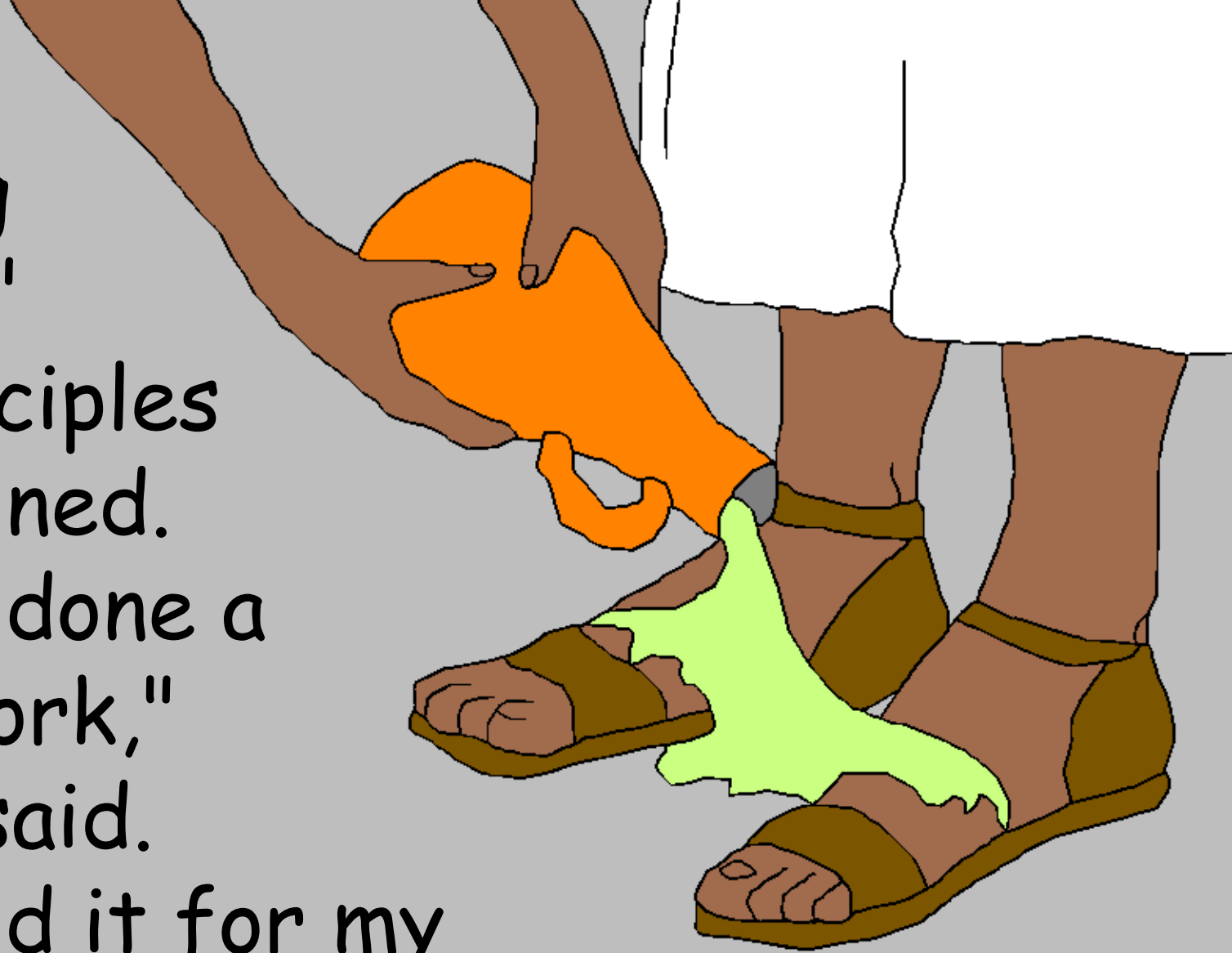
A few days before Jesus was killed, a lady came and poured perfumed ointment on His feet.



"She's
wasting
money,"
the disciples
complained.

"She's done a
good work,"
Jesus said.

"She did it for my
burial." What strange words!



After this, Judas, one of Jesus' twelve disciples, agreed to betray Jesus to the chief priests for 30 pieces of silver.



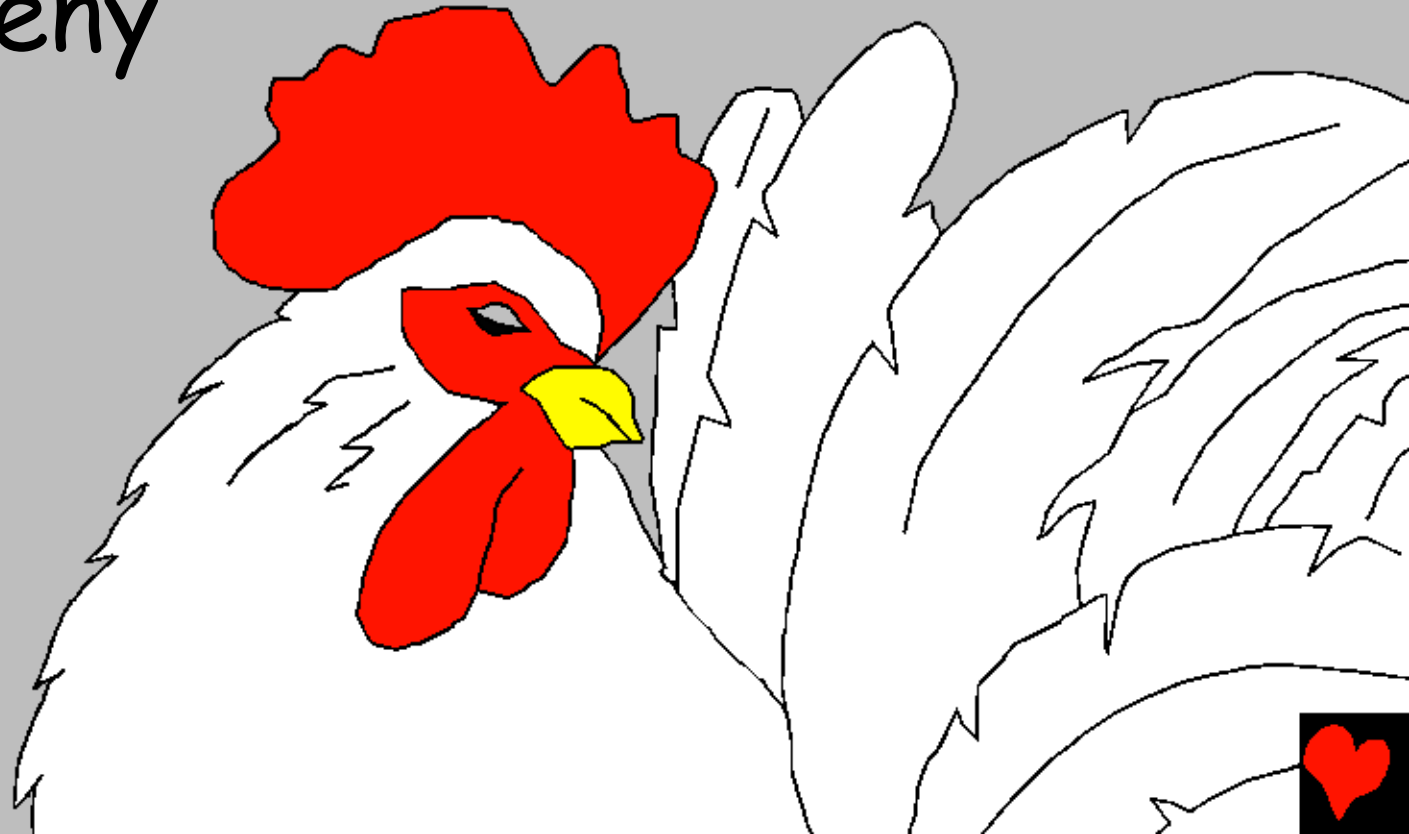
At the Jewish
Passover feast, Jesus
had His last meal with
His disciples. He told
them wonderful things
about God and His
promises
to those
who love
Him.



Then Jesus gave bread and a cup for them to share. These were to remind them that Jesus' body and blood were given to bring forgiveness for sins.



Then Jesus told His friends that He would be betrayed, and they would run away. "I won't run away," Peter insisted. "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times," Jesus said.





Later that night,
Jesus went to
pray in the
Garden of
Gethsemane.
The disciples
who were with
Him fell asleep.





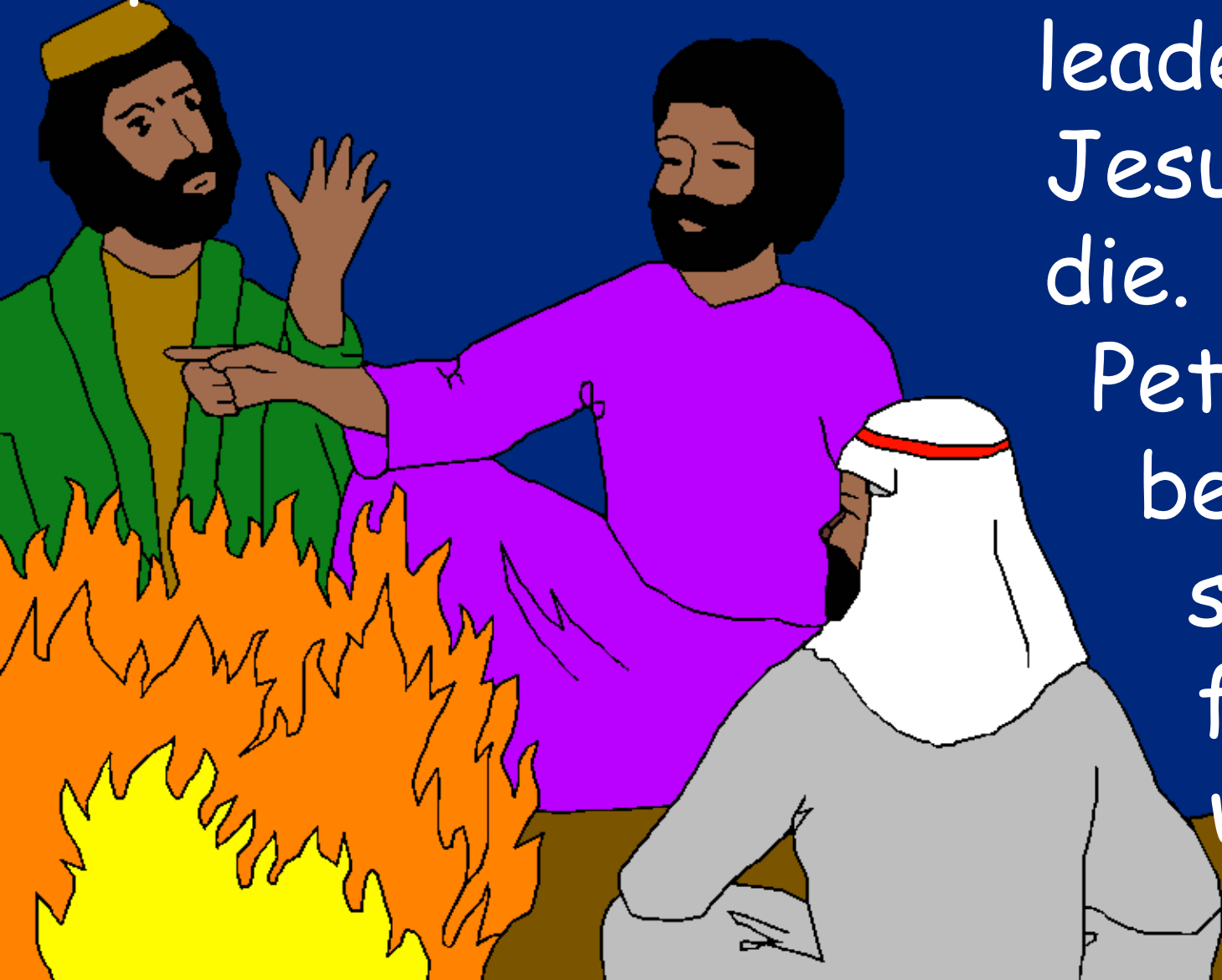
"O My Father,"
Jesus prayed,
"... Let this cup
pass from Me.
Nevertheless,
not as I will, but
as You will."



Suddenly a mob marched into the garden, led by Judas. Jesus did not resist, but Peter cut off a man's ear. Quietly, Jesus touched the man's ear and healed him. Jesus knew His arrest was part of God's will.



The mob took Jesus to the high priest's house. There, the Jewish leaders said Jesus should die. Nearby, Peter stood beside the servants' fire and watched.



Three times people stared at Peter and said, "You were with Jesus!"



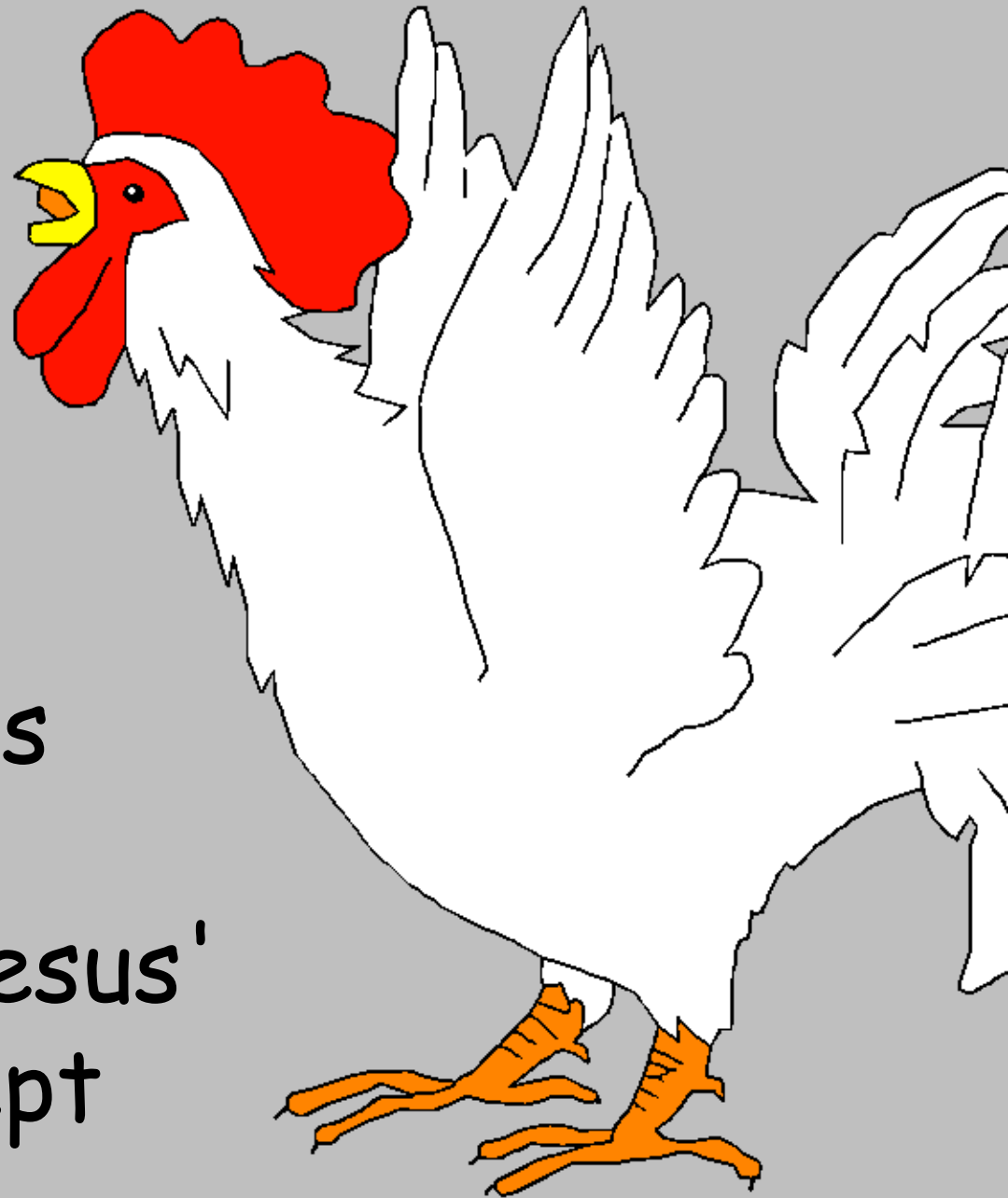
Three times Peter denied it, just as Jesus said he would.

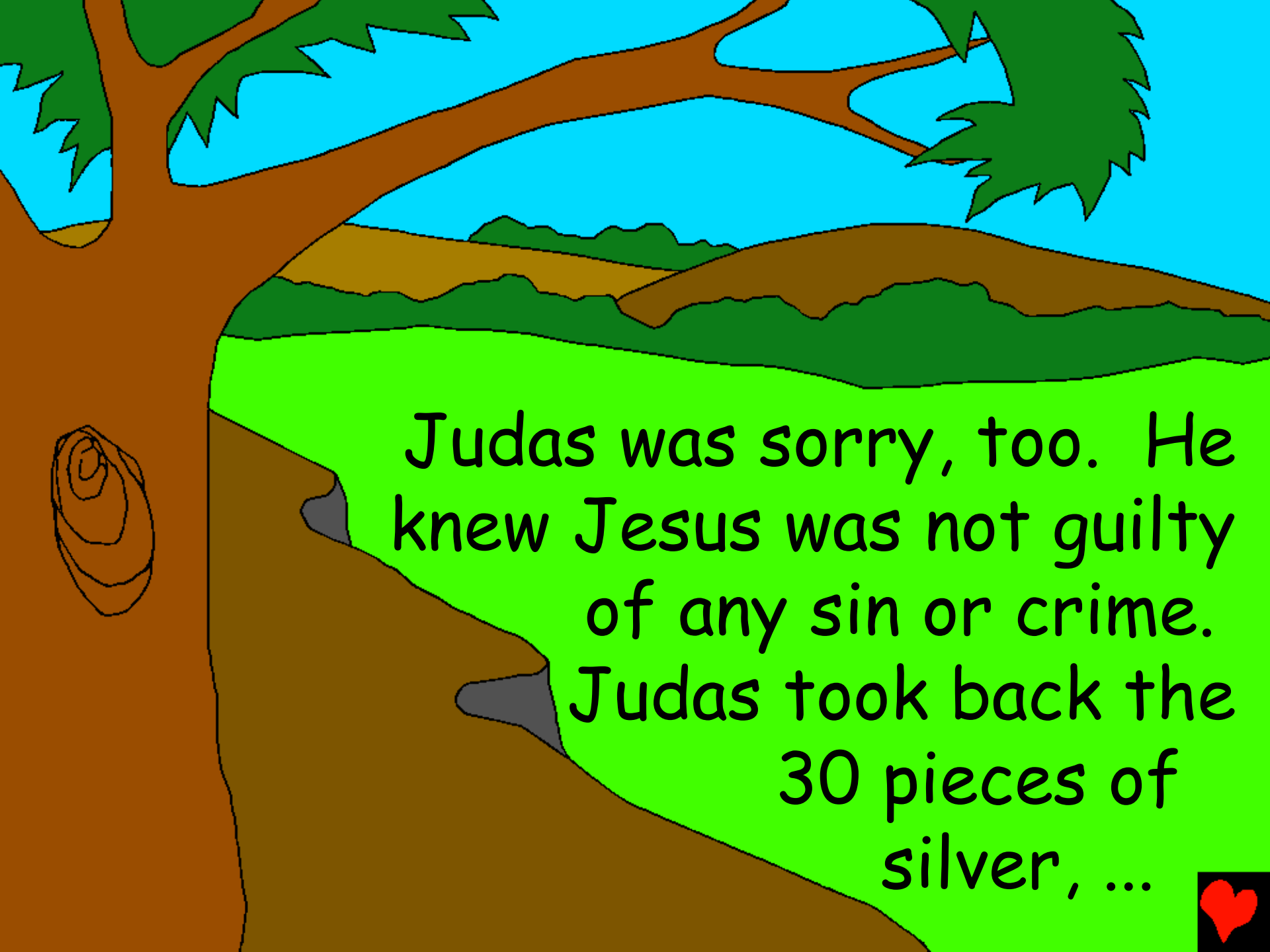
Peter even cursed and swore.



COCK-A-
DOODLE-DOO

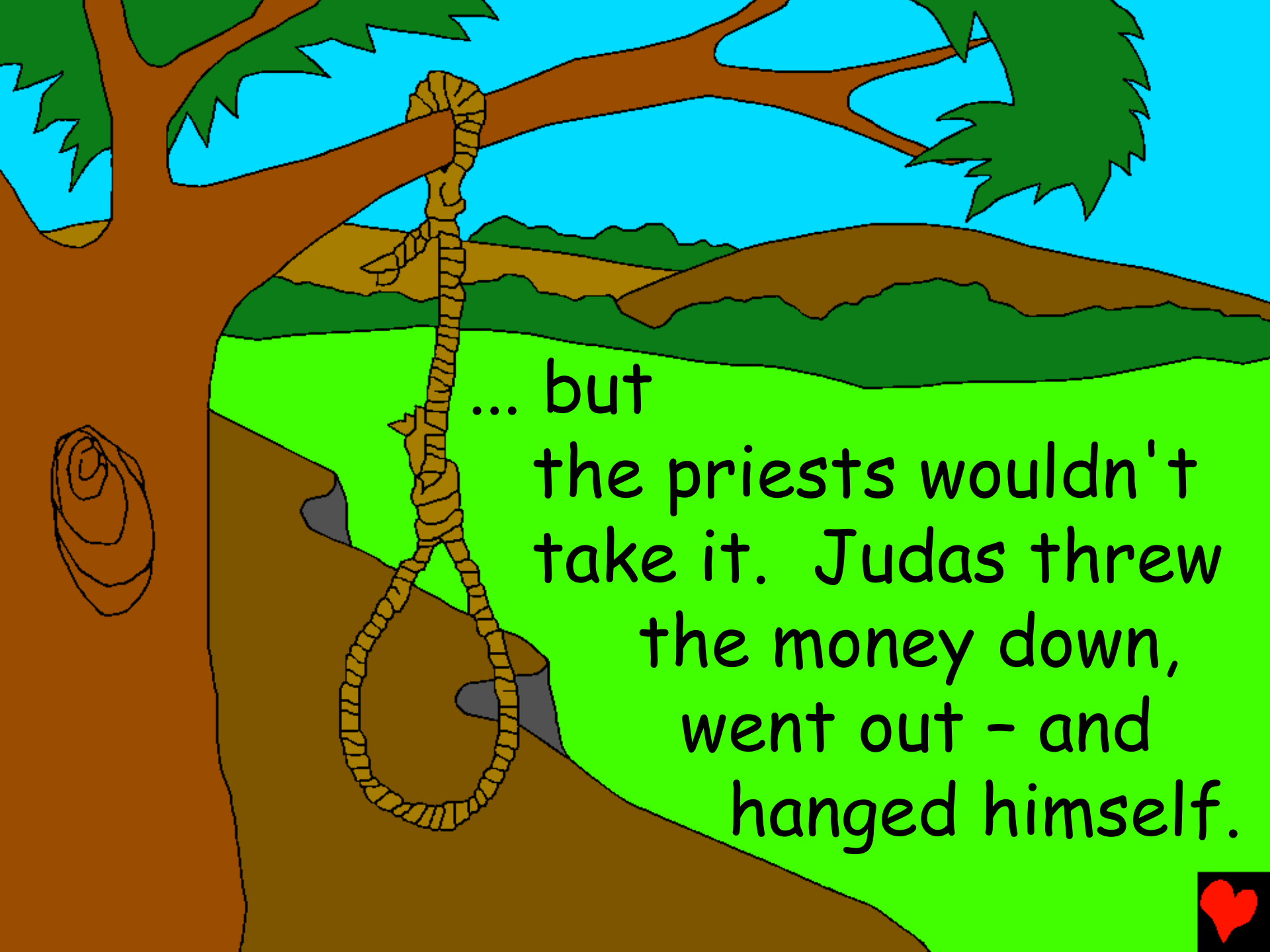
Just then, a
rooster crowed.
It was like God's
voice to Peter.
Remembering Jesus'
words, Peter wept
bitterly.





Judas was sorry, too. He
knew Jesus was not guilty
of any sin or crime.
Judas took back the
30 pieces of
silver, ...





... but
the priests wouldn't
take it. Judas threw
the money down,
went out - and
hanged himself.





The priests brought Jesus before Pilate, the Roman governor. Pilate said, "I have found no fault in this Man." But the mob

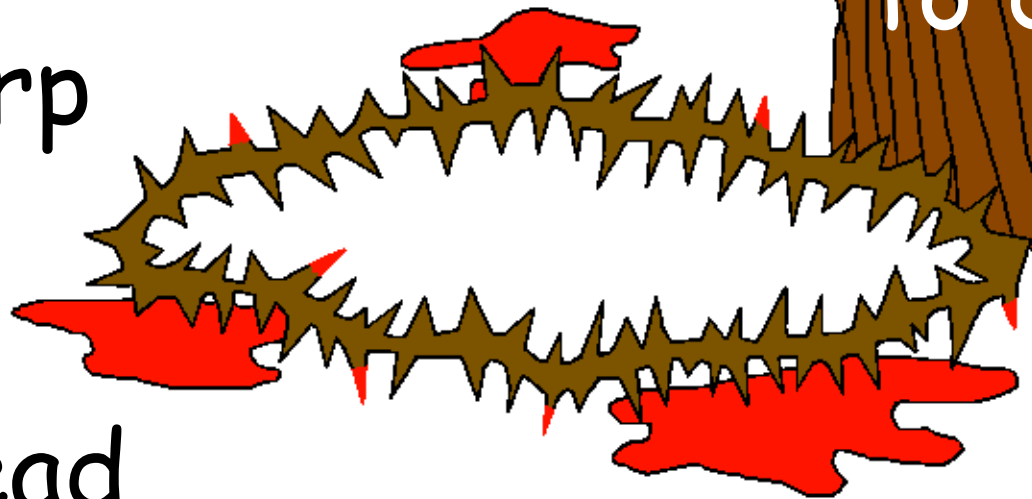
kept crying, "Crucify

Him! Crucify Him!"



Finally Pilate gave in,
and sentenced Jesus
to die on a cross. The
soldiers punched Jesus,
spit in His face, and
whipped Him. They
made a cruel crown
of long sharp
thorns and
pressed it
onto His head.

Then
they
nailed
Him to a
wooden
cross
to die.



Jesus always knew He would die that way. He also knew that His death would bring forgiveness for sinners who put their trust in Him. Two criminals were crucified beside Jesus.

One believed on Jesus - and went to Paradise. The other didn't.



After hours of suffering, Jesus said, "It is finished," and died.

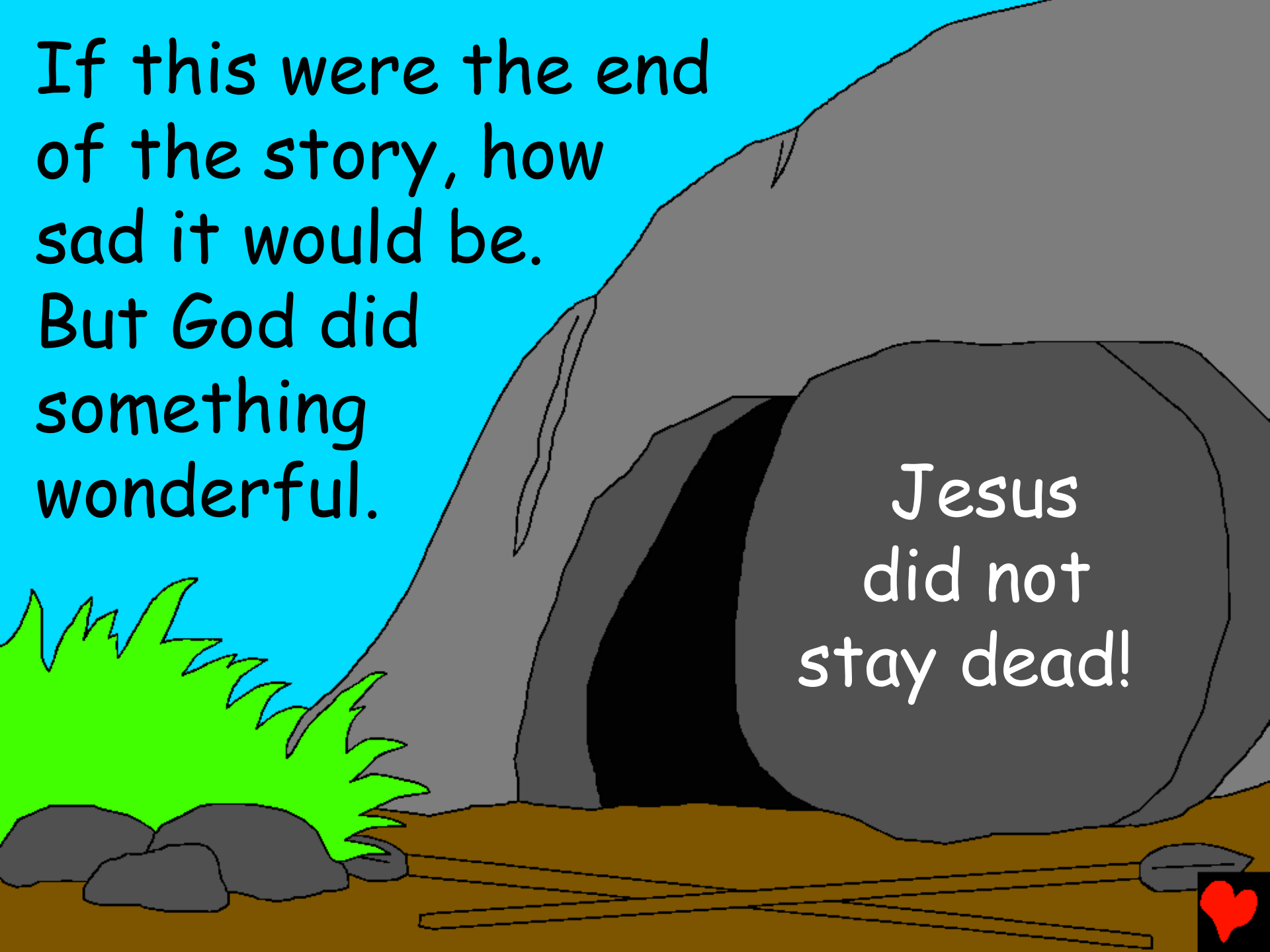
His work was completed.
Friends buried Him in a private tomb.



Then Roman soldiers
sealed and
guarded the
tomb. Now
nobody could
get in - or
out.



If this were the end
of the story, how
sad it would be.
But God did
something
wonderful.

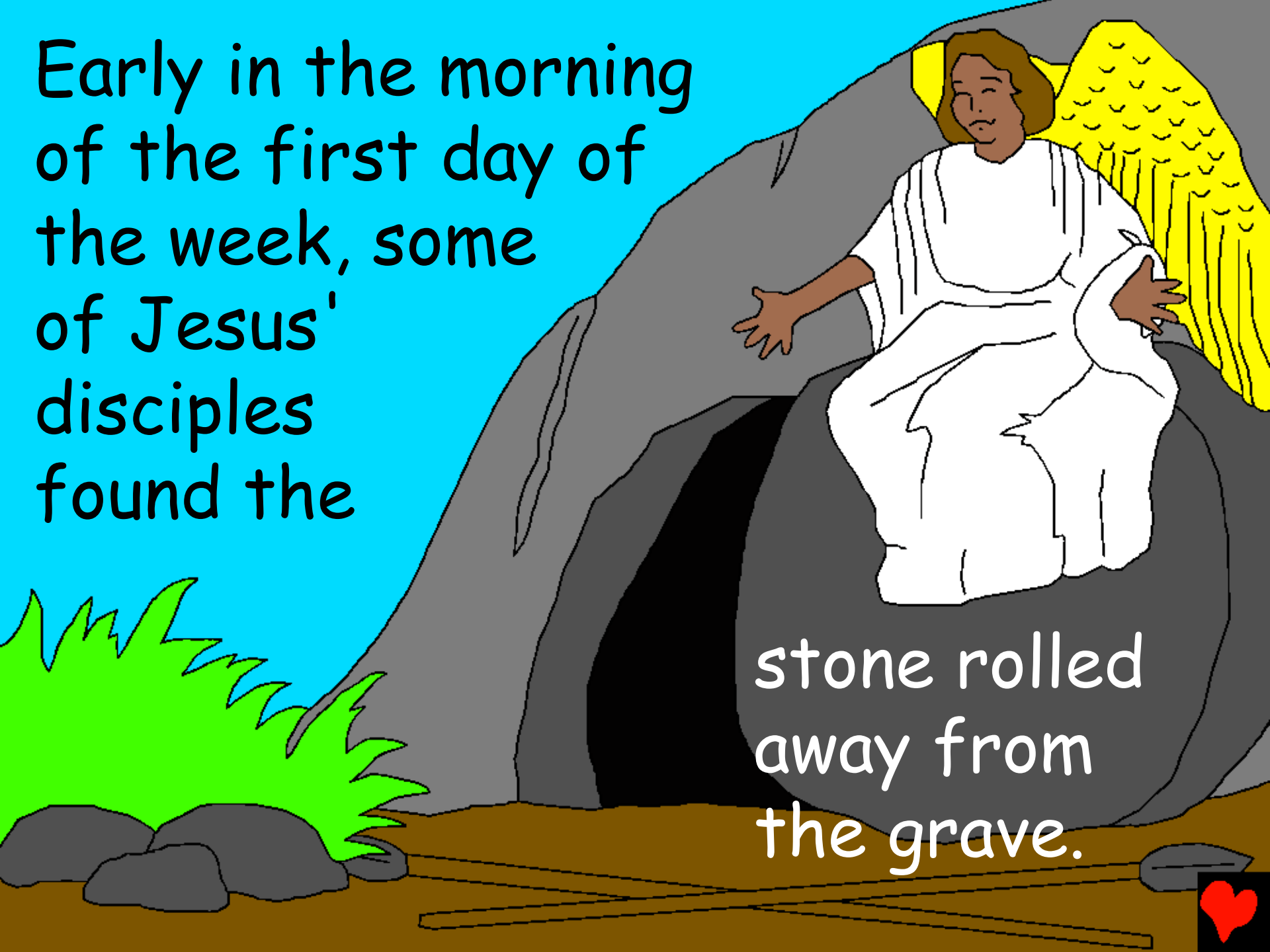


Jesus
did not
stay dead!

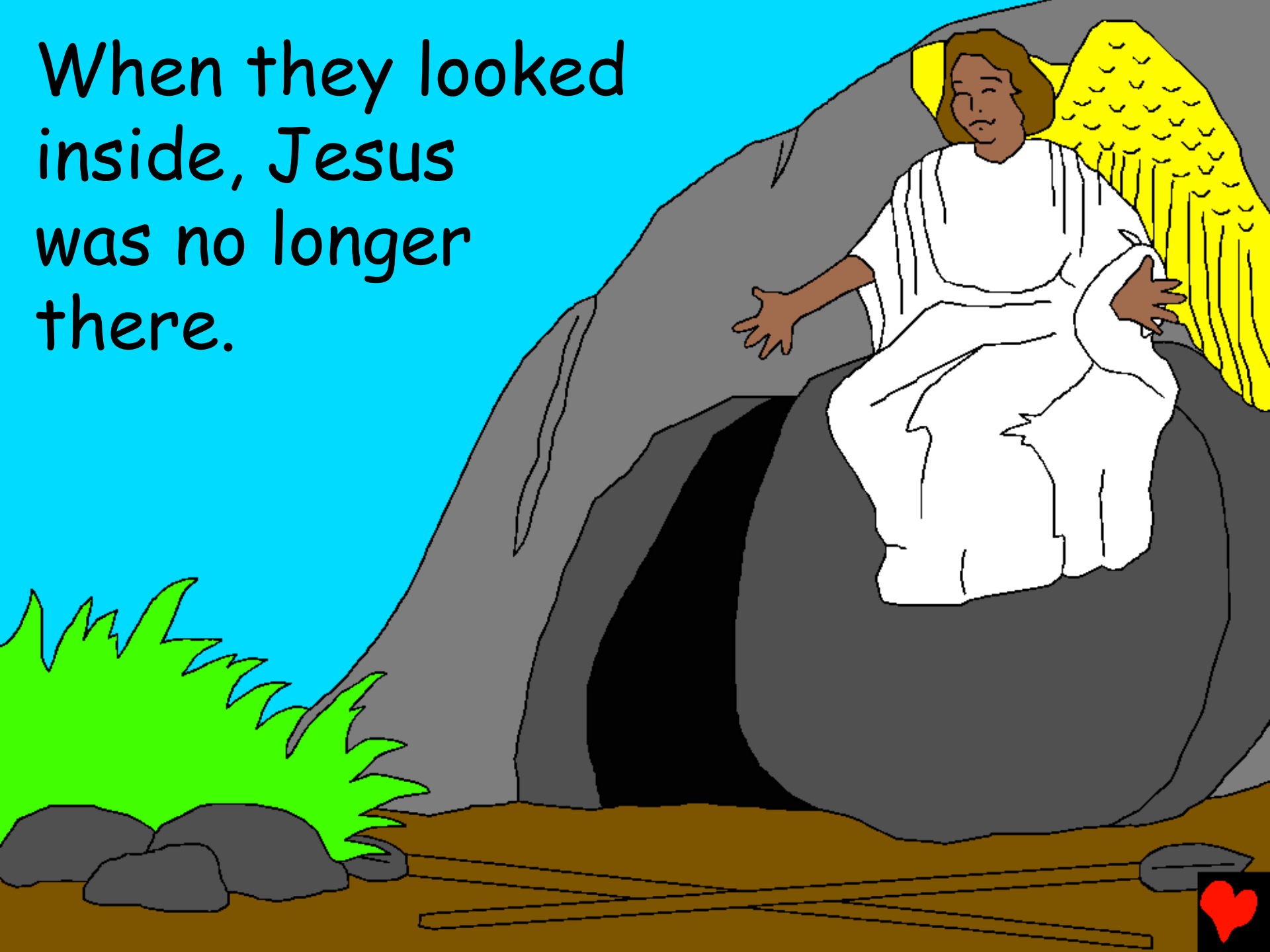


Early in the morning
of the first day of
the week, some
of Jesus'
disciples
found the

stone rolled
away from
the grave.



When they looked
inside, Jesus
was no longer
there.



One woman stayed, weeping
by the tomb. Jesus
appeared to her! She
rushed back joyfully
to tell the other
disciples.



"JESUS IS ALIVE!
JESUS HAS COME
BACK FROM THE
DEAD!"



Soon Jesus came to the disciples, and showed them His nail-scarred hands. It was true. **JESUS WAS ALIVE AGAIN!** He forgave Peter for denying Him, and told His disciples to tell everybody about Him. Then He went back to heaven where He had come from.



The First Easter

A story from God's Word, the Bible,

is found in

Matthew 26-28, Luke 22-24,
John 13-21

"The entrance of Your Words gives light."
Psalm 119:130



The End



This Bible story tells us about our wonderful God who made us and who wants us to know Him.

God knows we have done bad things, which He calls sin. The punishment for sin is death, but God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and be punished for our sins. Then Jesus came back to life and went home to Heaven! If you believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive your sins, He will do it! He will come and live in you now, and you will live with Him forever.



If you want to turn from your sins,
say this to God:

Dear God, I believe that Jesus died for me
and now lives again. Please come into my
life and forgive my sins, so that I can have
new life now, and one day go to be with You
forever. Help me to live for You as Your
child. Amen.

Read the Bible and talk with God every
day! John 3:16

