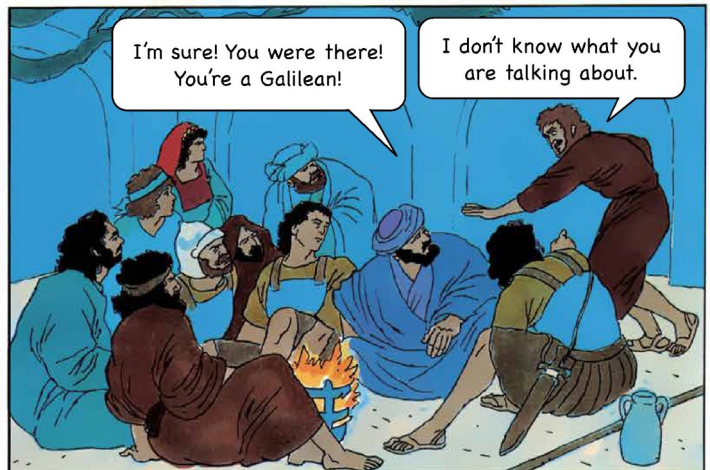
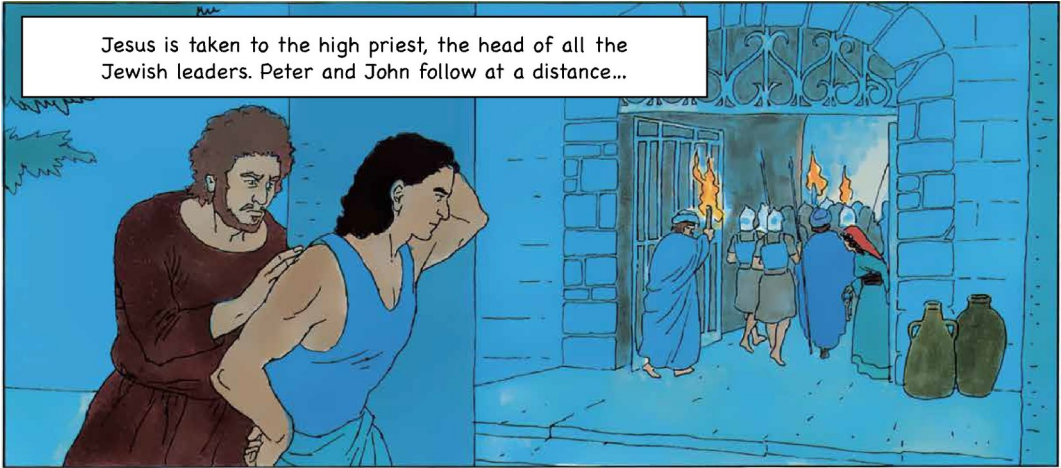
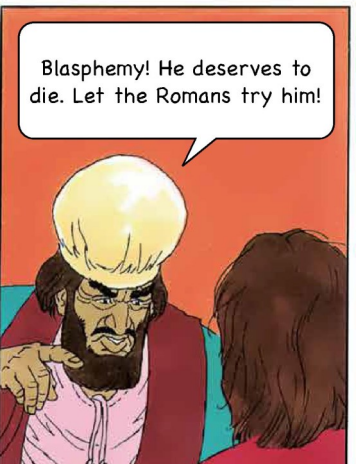
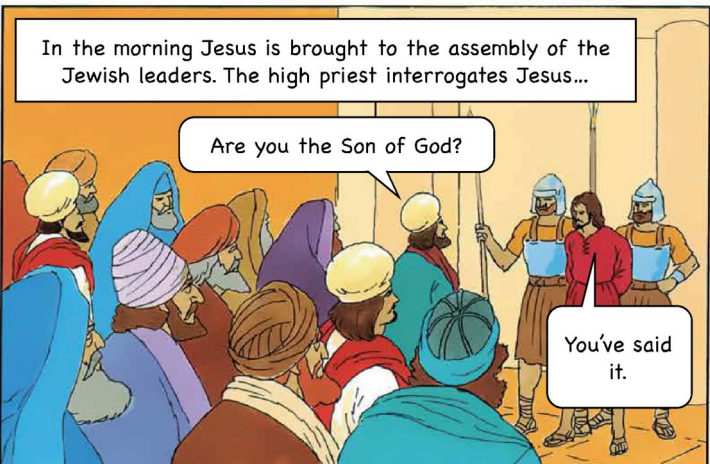
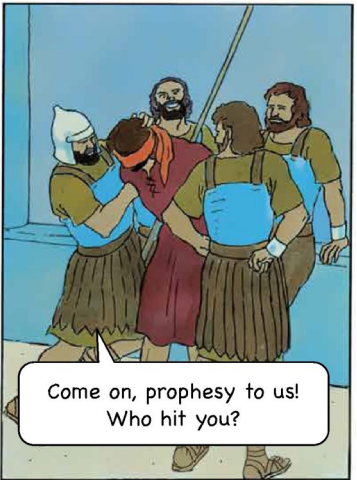
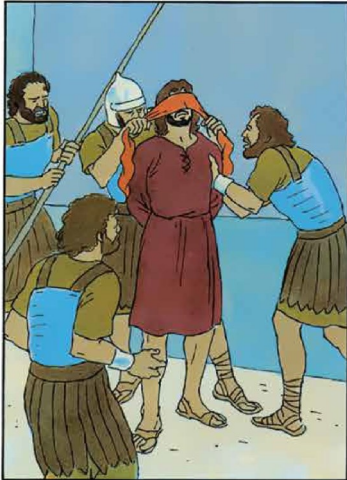


THE TRIAL

READ FOR YOURSELF: Matthew 26:57-75





THE TRIAL

It is night time when the Lord Jesus is arrested. Because the temple is closed at night He is taken to the house of the high priest. There He is tried, mocked and beaten. The disciples have fled. But Peter and John follow at a distance. When Peter is recognized at the court yard he pretends that he does not know who Jesus is. He renounces his master.

How badly Peter fails! At the beginning of the evening he had said several times that he would follow Jesus everywhere and that he would give his life for Him. And when Jesus was arrested in the garden of Gethsemane he had even used his sword to defend Him. But now when everything seems lost he turns away from the Lord Jesus.

The rooster crows! This is going to be a bad day. Peter realises it. And he cries.

Peter is questioned by the servants. He renounces Jesus. And he escapes arrest. Jesus is questioned by the leaders. He stays true to Gods assignment. And he gets convicted.

Jesus stays steadfast. He trusts that God will take care of Him. He makes Himself weak but He continues. Out of love for God and out of love for the people for whom He is going through this all. Even for Peter.

MEMORY VERSE

*"But whoever believes in Him will not be disappointed."
(Romans 9:33b)*

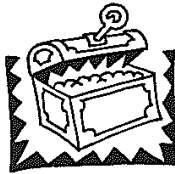
WHO IS JESUS?

Cornerstone

*"The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all."
(1Peter 2:7b)*

Few people understand how Jesus can still be the Son of God even when He is weak and vulnerable. Many people feel annoyance towards Him. But they are wrong. They will stumble over Him, just as you stumble over a stone.

Jesus is the cornerstone. The cornerstone determines how the house is going to be built. Jesus can decide how your house is going to look like. He, who trusts in Jesus, learns you can build on Him. You are standing on the foundation of grace.



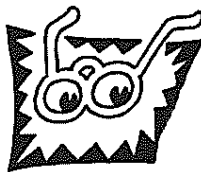
YOU CAN BUILD UPON JESUS

Maybe you feel you are young and strong. You may think that you can conquer the world. You feel like Peter, before Jesus was arrested. But in everybody's life there comes a day when you are weak and vulnerable. That's the time when you either trust the Lord your God or you try to save yourself no matter what it costs. God can be trusted any time, because He loves you like no one else can. He will never, ever, forsake you. You can count upon Him!

OLD TREASURES

The Messiah was going to be rejected as a worthless stone. That is written in the Psalms. It also says something nobody counted on: God chooses that worthless stone to fulfil his plans. He builds on Jesus a new future for His children. Jesus becomes the foundation for His church with the grace that He brings.

*“The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all. This was done by the Lord; what a wonderful sight it is!”
(Psalms 118:22-23)*



EXTRA INFORMATION

Building houses

In Israel houses are built with thick stones. These are whitewashed, because white keeps the heat out. The houses of the rich people have a courtyard where the animals live. In the rural areas animals live inside the houses. The staircases are built on the outside of the house. They lead to the roof, because the flat roofs are also used for living.

Many houses are built out of natural stone. The rocky underground is used as the foundation. When the building begins, the cornerstone is the first stone to be placed. It is larger than the other building stones, because it functions as a carrying stone. This cornerstone connects the walls. It is very important how this stone is placed, because it determines how the rest of the house will be built. For this reason, a good cornerstone is very important for a good construction of the building. Just like the cornerstone, Jesus is very important for the construction of our lives and the church.



DO YOU KNOW...?

1. How many times does Peter renounce his master that night?

2. What does Peter remember when the rooster crows?

3. Look again at the picture story. Who does Peter see when he flees from the house of the high priest?

4. On the grounds of which saying do the leaders sentence Jesus? (Matthew 26:64)?

5. Why is Jesus called a stone that is condemned by the builders:

- a) Jesus is rejected by the people
- b) Jesus is not a good carpenter
- c) Jesus is beaten

6. Why is the cornerstone so important for building a house?

7. Who can you always keep trusting:

- a) Yourself
- b) Your friends
- c) The Lord God

BIBLE READING

Sun	Matthew 26:57-68
Mon	Matthew 26:69-75
Tue	Psalms 118
Wed	Romans 9:30-33
Thu	Ephesians 2:20-22
Fri	Matthew 7:24-27
Sat	1 Peter 2:4-10



ACTION POINT!

Fill in the missing words:

If we are not faithful,

*because He cannot be false to Himself.
(2 Timothy 2:13)*