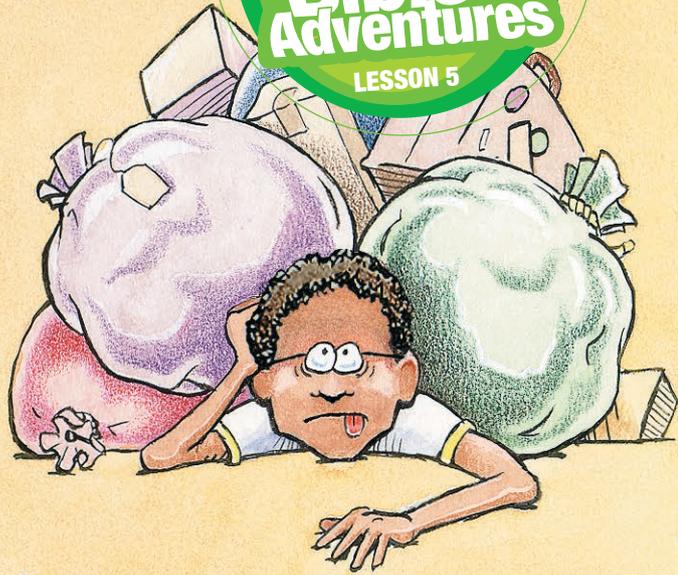


EXTRA Baggage

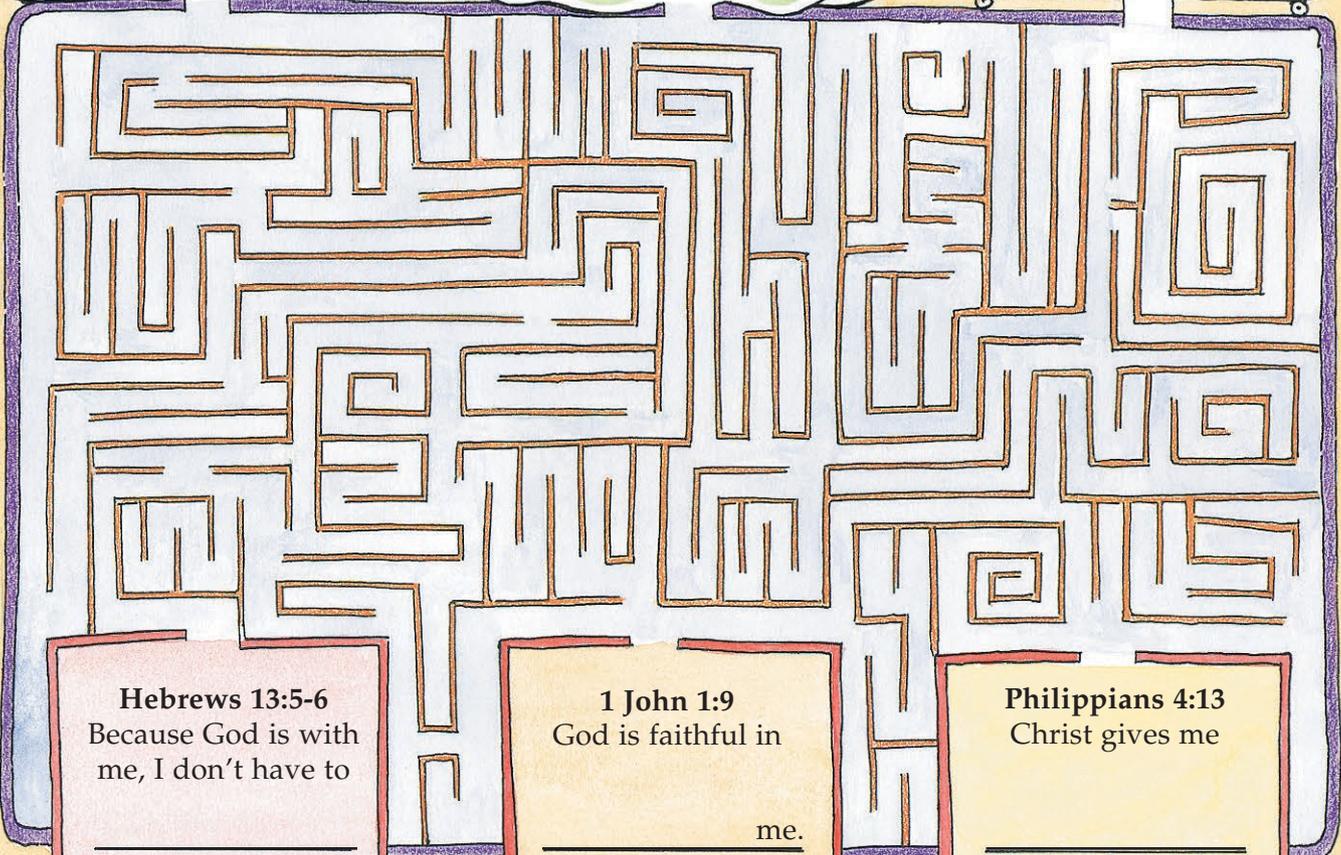


Feelings of failure and discouragement are like carrying extra baggage on a trip. You don't need it. Help these kids lighten their loads. First, look up the Bible passages and complete the promises God gives. Then trace the maze path from the situation to the promise that fits it.

1. I forgot to lock the door, and I hear a strange noise. I can't get to sleep.

2. I said I would play my flute in the program, but the music is so hard for me!

3. I really want to stop cheating, but I did it again. I don't think God will forgive me this time.



Hebrews 13:5-6
Because God is with me, I don't have to _____

1 John 1:9
God is faithful in _____ me.

Philippians 4:13
Christ gives me _____



BEFORE AND AFTER

¹Peter told John, who was next to Jesus, to ask Jesus who it was. But all this was done privately. See John 13:21-30 for the details.

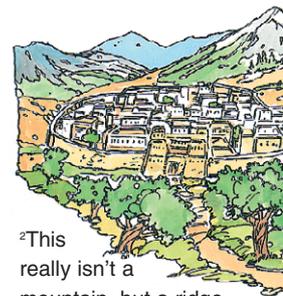
At supper the night before He died, Jesus said that one of the disciples would betray Him. When Peter heard this, he wanted to know who it would be.¹

Read Matthew 26:23-25. How did Jesus identify His betrayer?

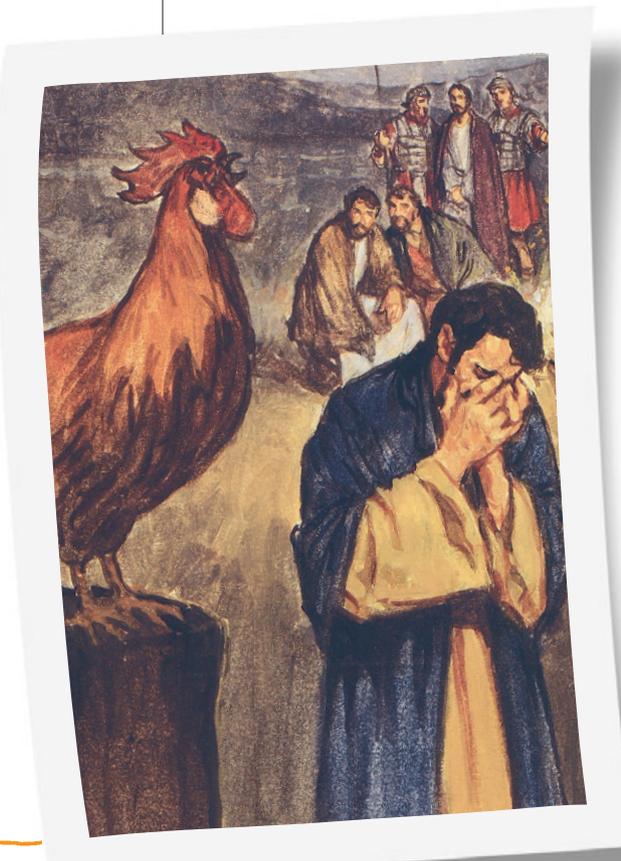
After the supper they all went to the Mount of Olives.²

Read Matthew 26:31-35. What did Jesus say would happen? How did Peter answer? What did Jesus say Peter would do before the rooster crowed³ in the morning?

Judas came with a large crowd carrying swords and clubs. He kissed Jesus as a signal to the group. They arrested Jesus and took Him to the high priest, and all the disciples deserted Him. But Peter followed—at a distance.



²This really isn't a mountain, but a ridge east of Jerusalem that stands higher than other parts of the city. The Garden of Gethsemane is somewhere on the hillside.



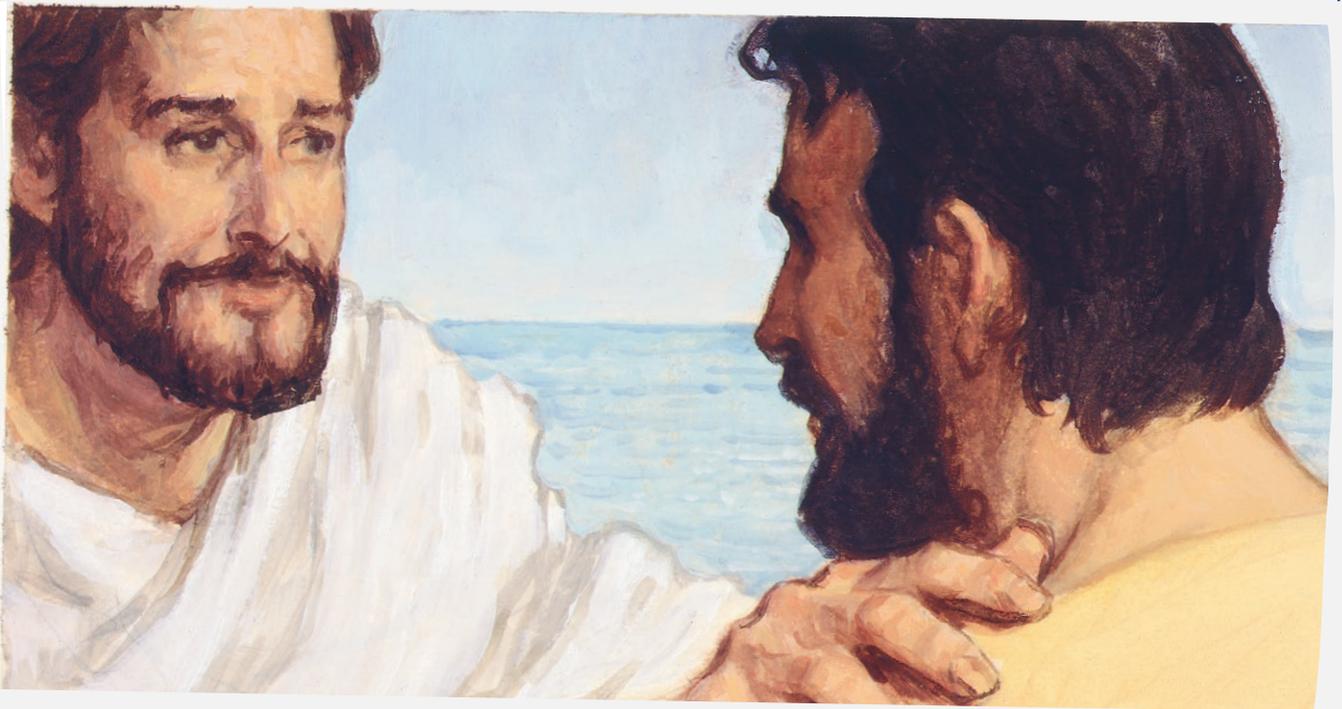
Matthew 26:69-74

Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant

girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said.



³Roosters are known for crowing in telling time. The "cock crow" is the time period before sunrise.



But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

Why do you think Peter was here? Do you think this was dangerous for Peter? Why or why not?

Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"

After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away."⁴

Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!"

Immediately a rooster crowed.

Read Luke 22:60-61. What do you think went through Peter's mind as Jesus looked at him?

Peter remembered what Jesus said. He went outside and cried.

Read John 21:15-17. Why did Jesus ask Peter if he loved Him? How do you think Peter felt? What did Jesus want Peter to do?

"Peter spoke with a Galilean accent that people from Jerusalem would notice right away."



I've Blown It Again!



When you mess up, do you *really* mess up, and think the situation is hopeless? If so, there's good news for you: God is always ready to help you when you ask Him. Finish this prayer by writing down some of the "messes" you're facing right now; ask God to help you clean them up.

God, without Your help, I'll never be able to

_____.

Help me remember that _____

_____.

I know it was wrong for me to _____,

so I'm asking You _____

_____.

When I'm feeling down about _____

_____, show me that

You _____

In Jesus' name. Amen.

KEY VERSE

I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

