

Bible for Children
presents

THE FIRST EASTER



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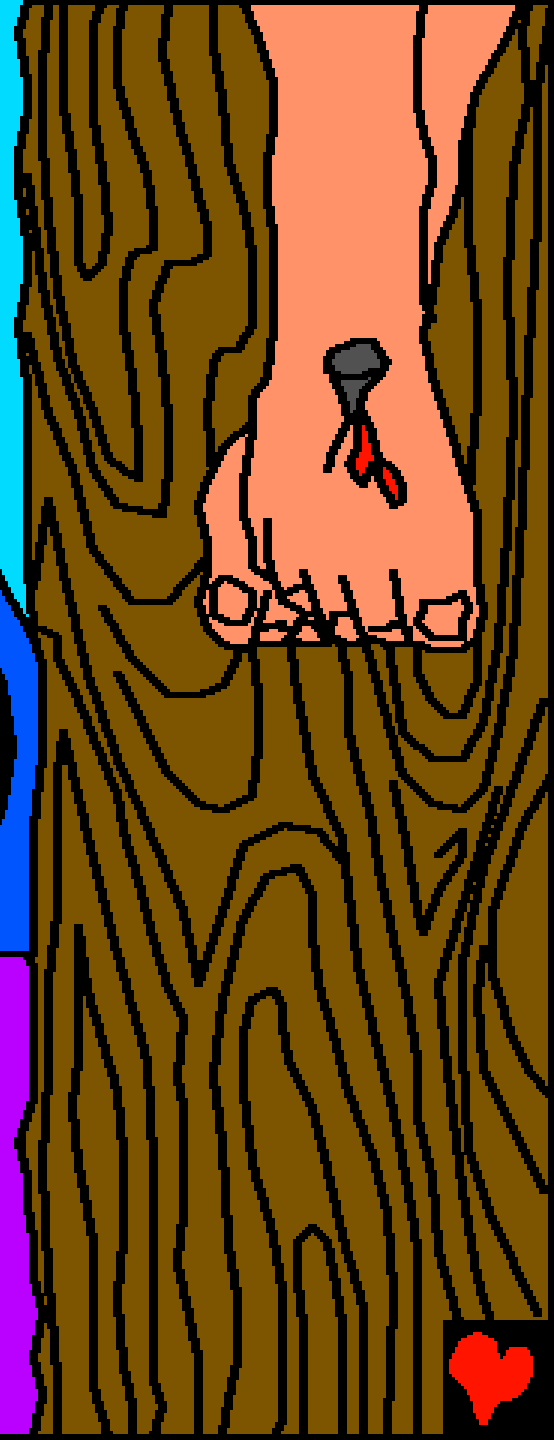
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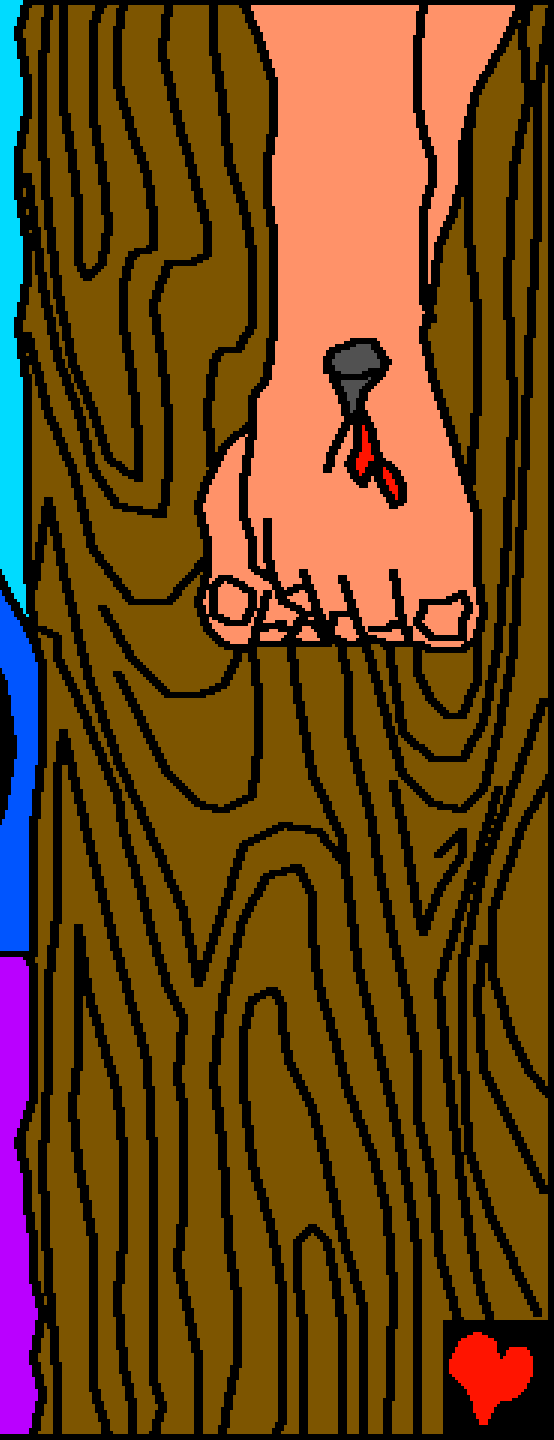
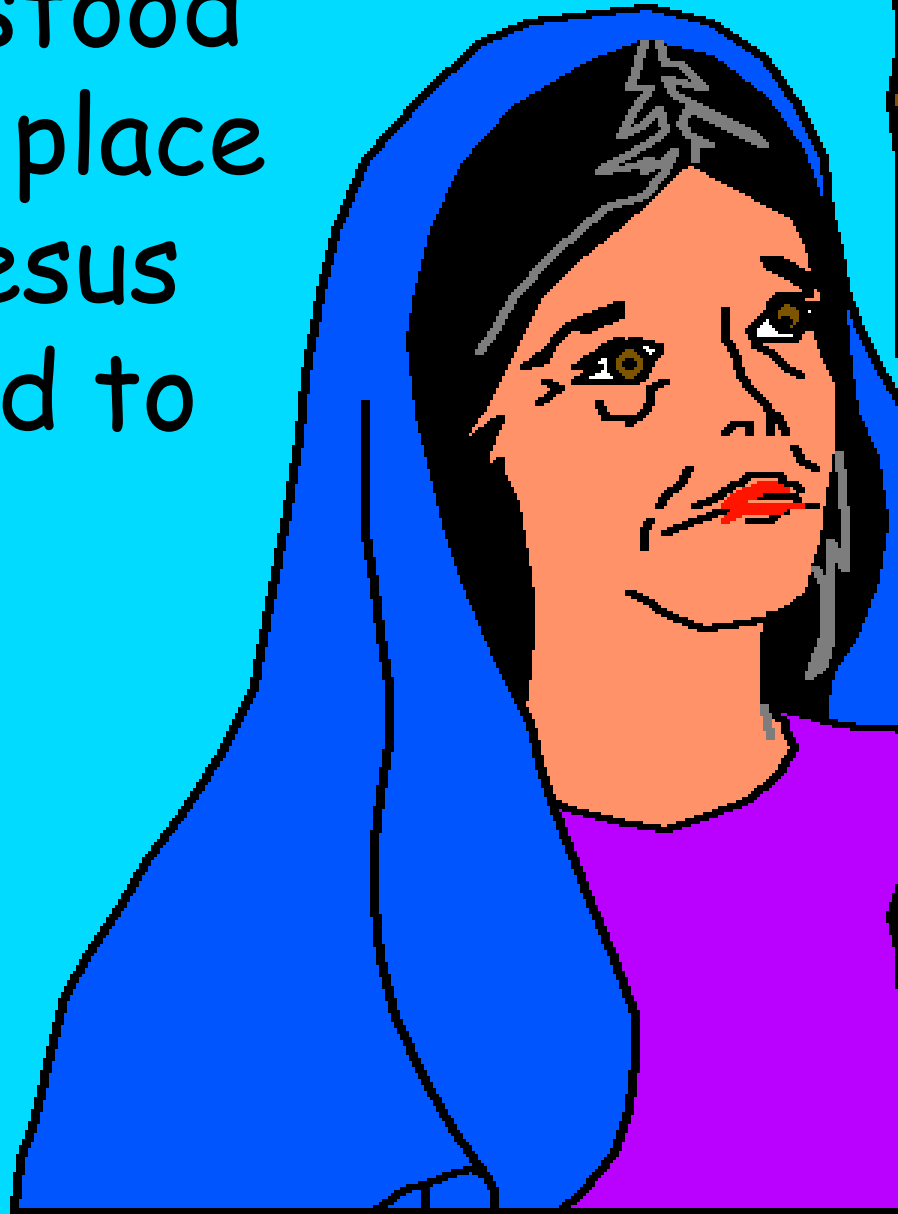
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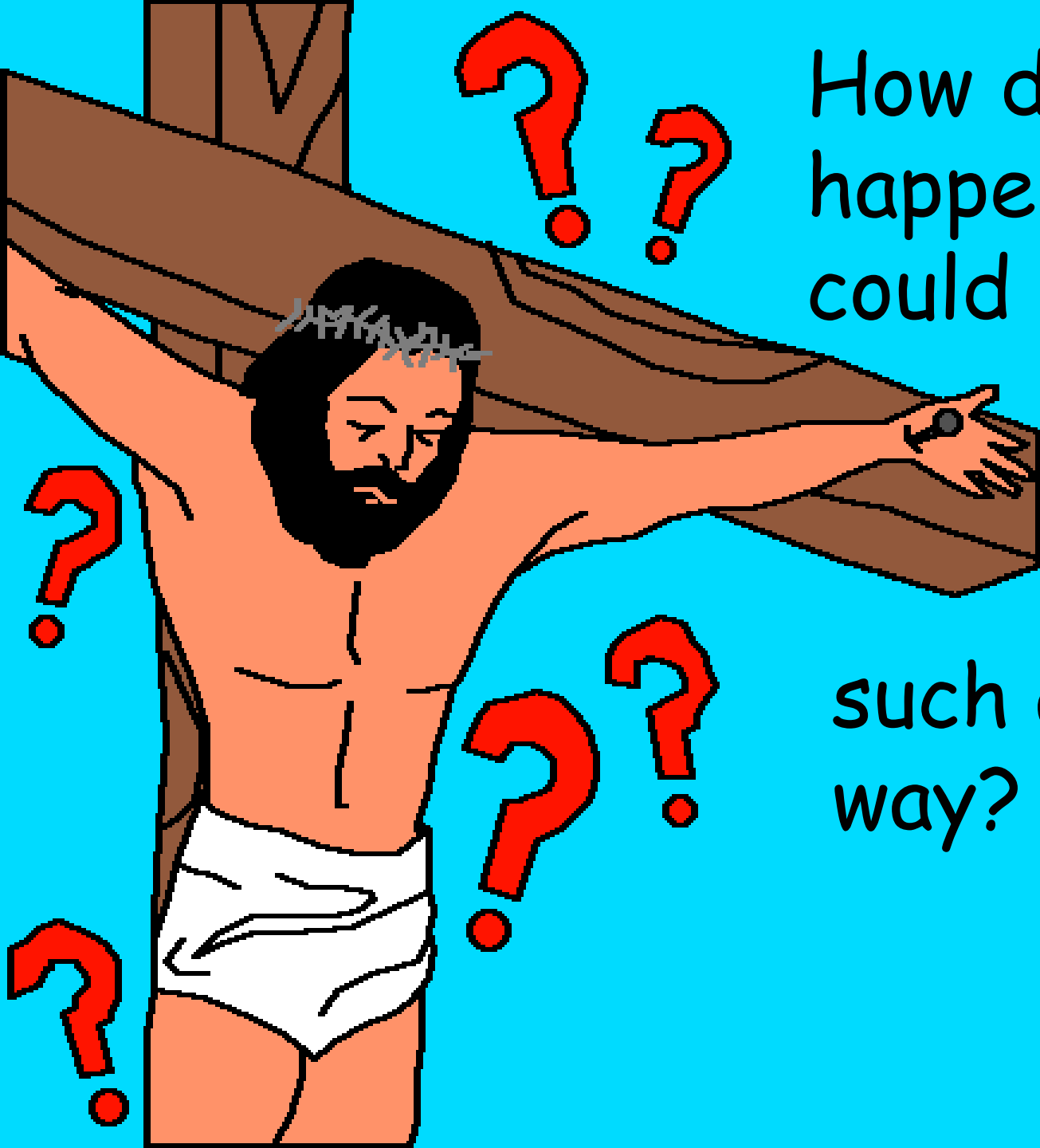


The lady stood on the
noisy hillside,
her sad eyes
looking up to
a terrible
scene. Her
Son was
dying.



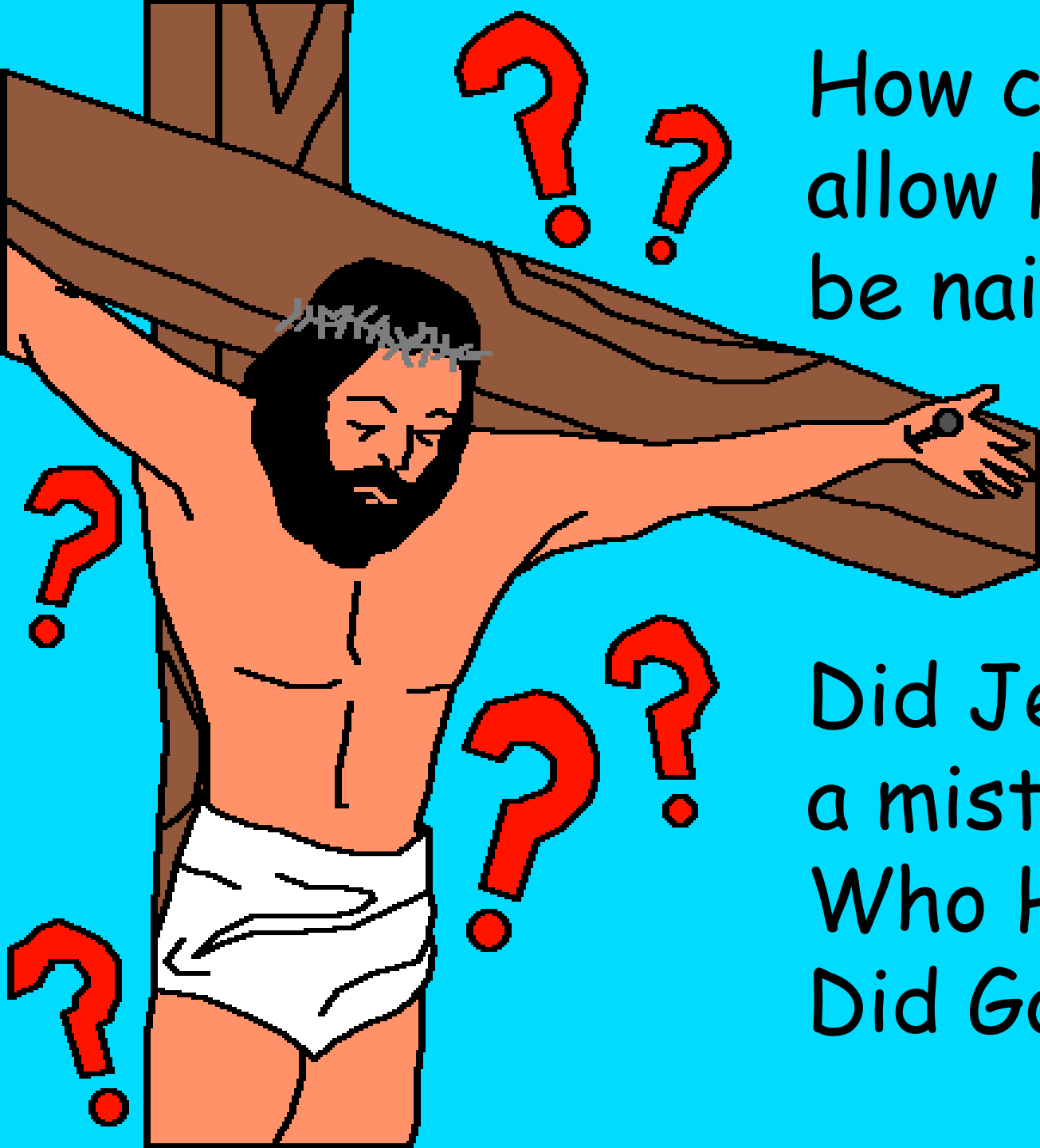
The mother was Mary,
and she stood
near the place
where Jesus
was nailed to
a cross.





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?

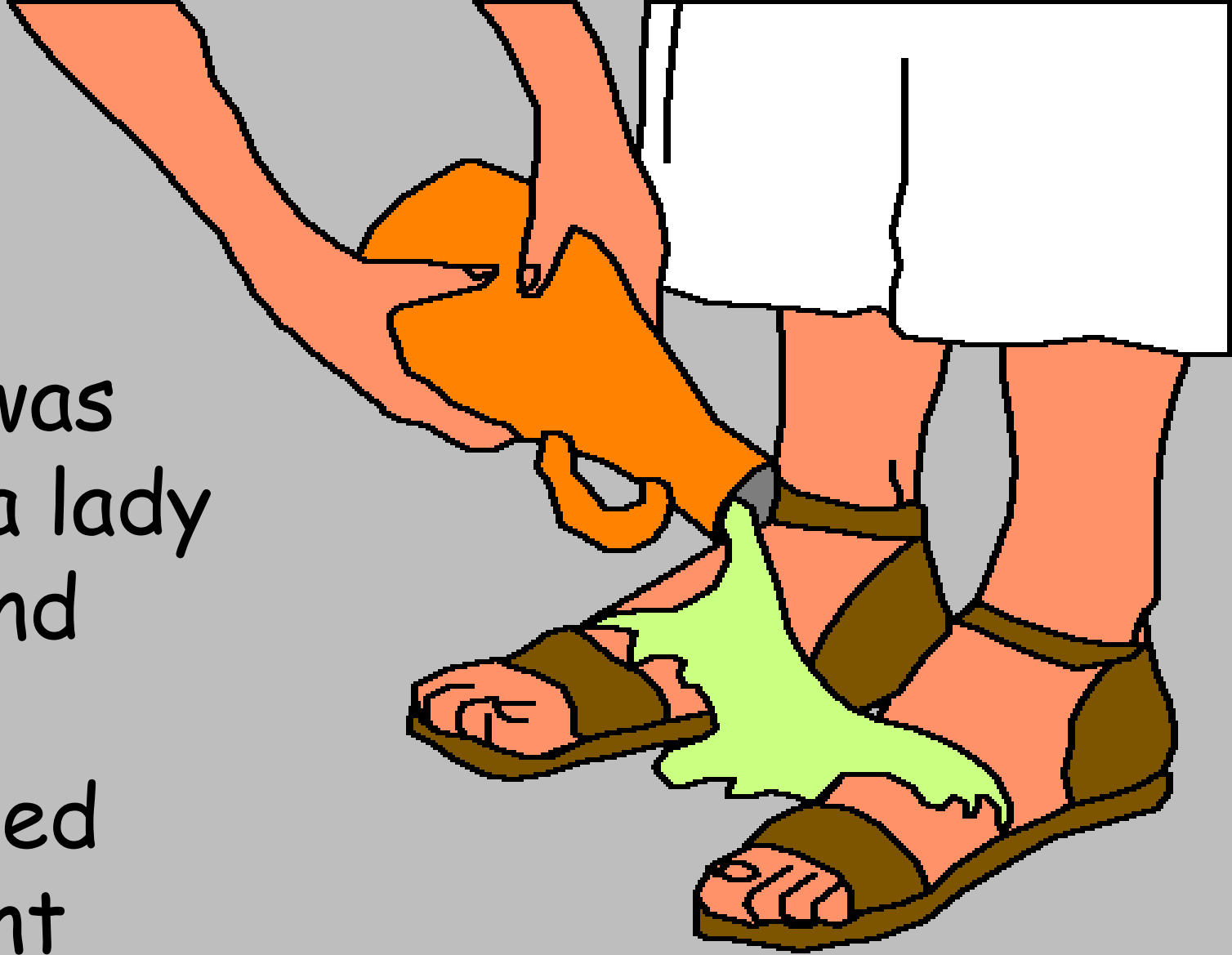




No! God didn't fail. Jesus hadn't made any mistake. Jesus always knew He would be put to death by wicked men. Even when Jesus was a baby, an old man named Simeon had told Mary that sadness lay ahead.



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.



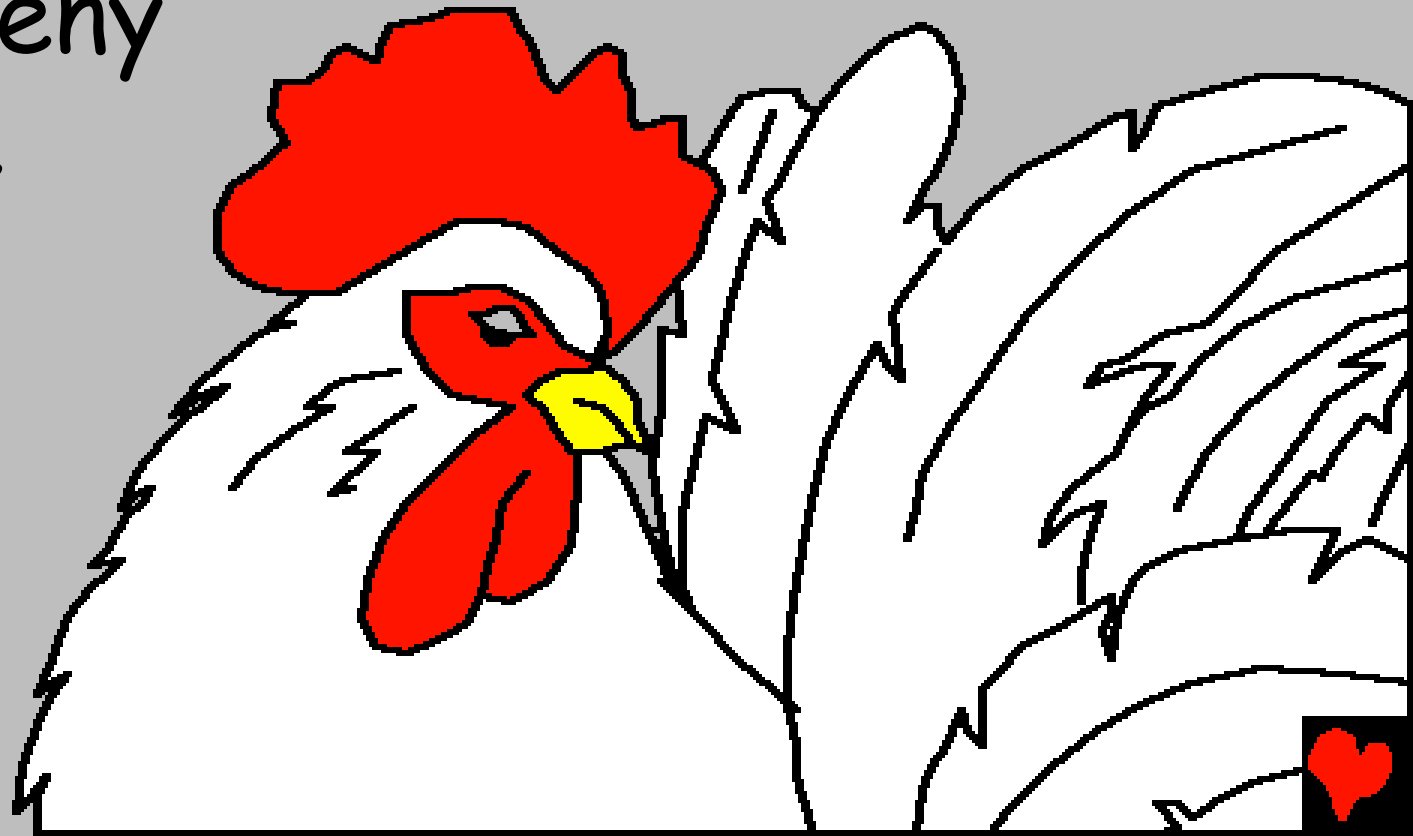
At the Jewish
Passover feast, Jesus
had His last meal with
His disciples. He told
them wonderful things
about God and His
promises
to those
who love
Him.



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.

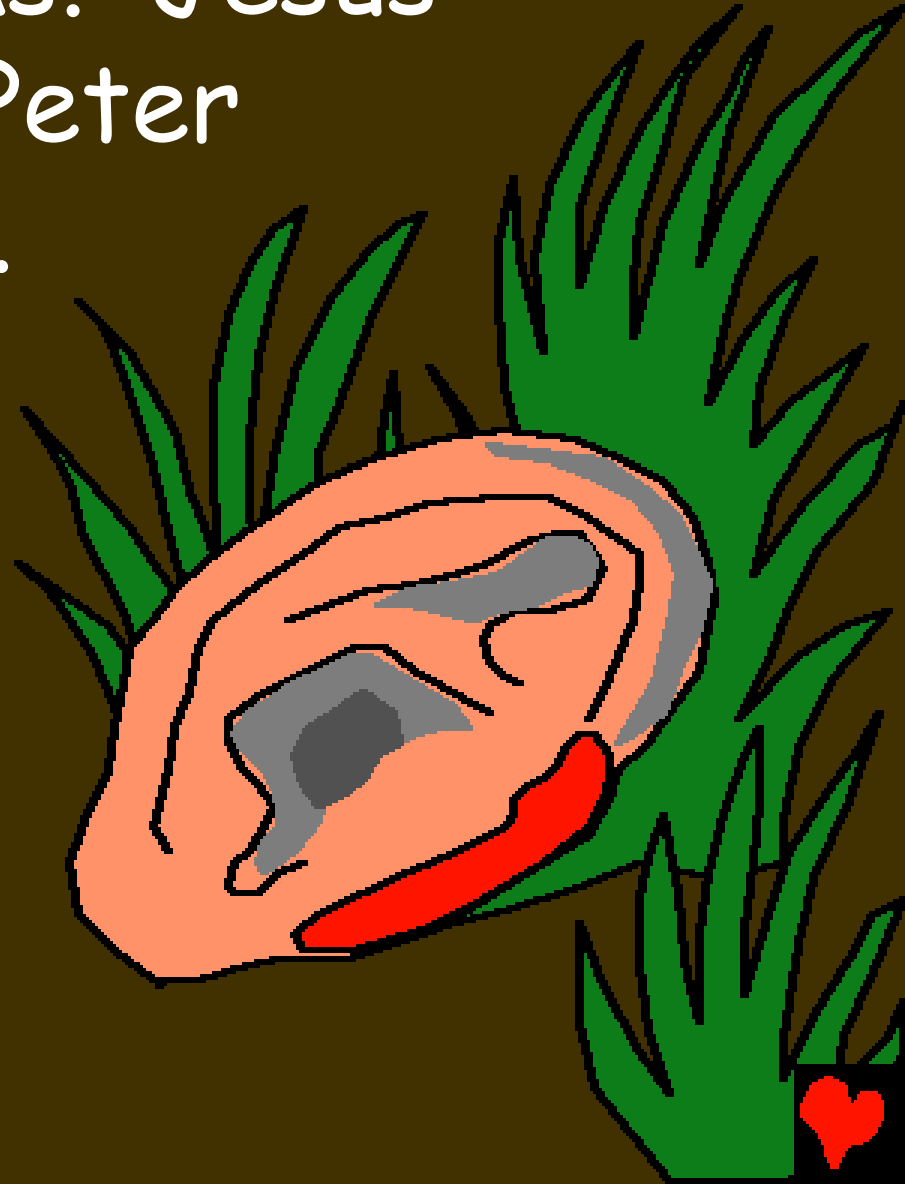




"O My Father,"
Jesus prayed,
"... Let this cup
pass from Me.
Nevertheless,
not as I will, but
as You will."



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.



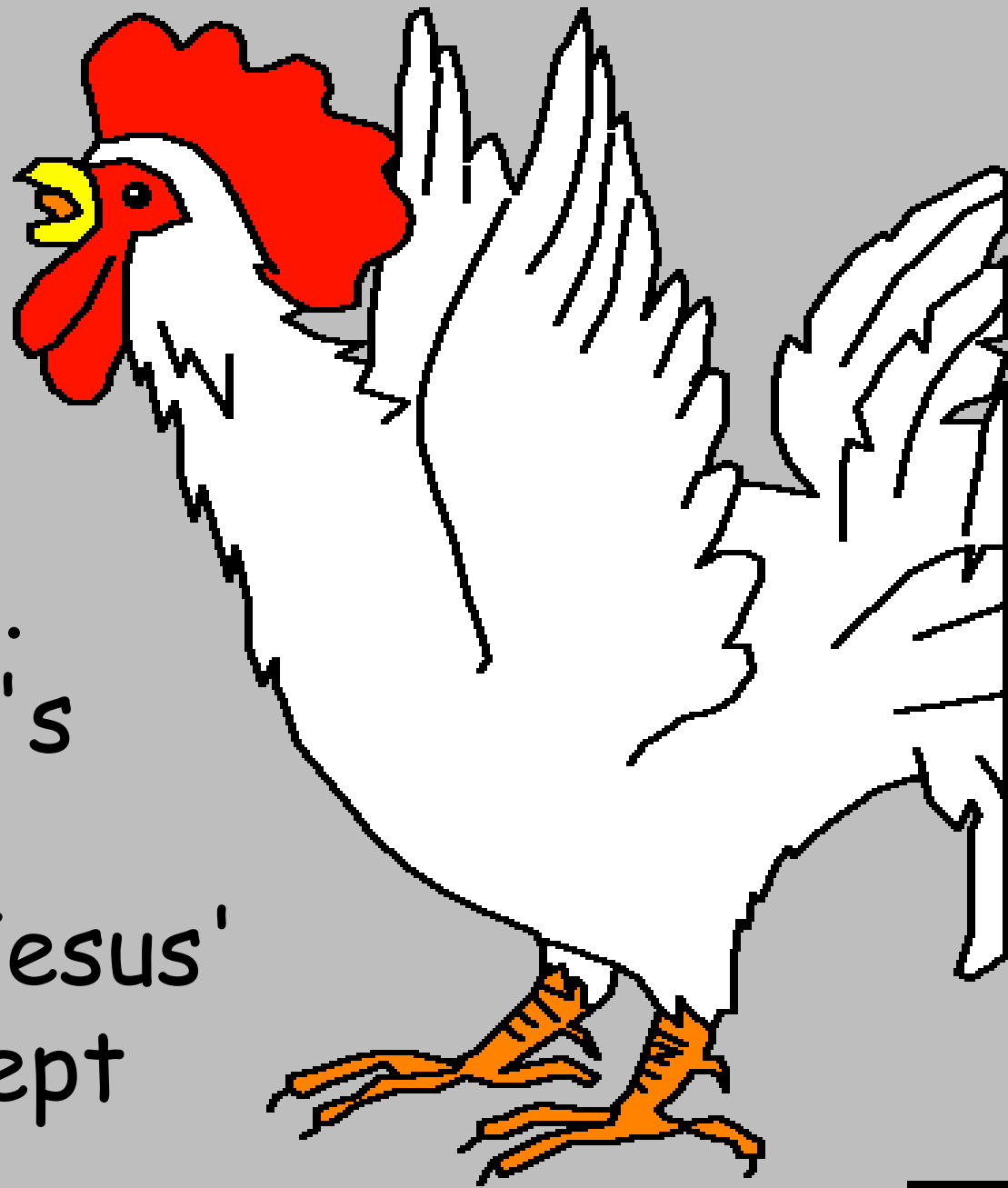
Three times people stared at Peter
and said, "You
were with
Jesus!"



Three times Peter denied it, just as Jesus said he would. Peter even cursed and swore.

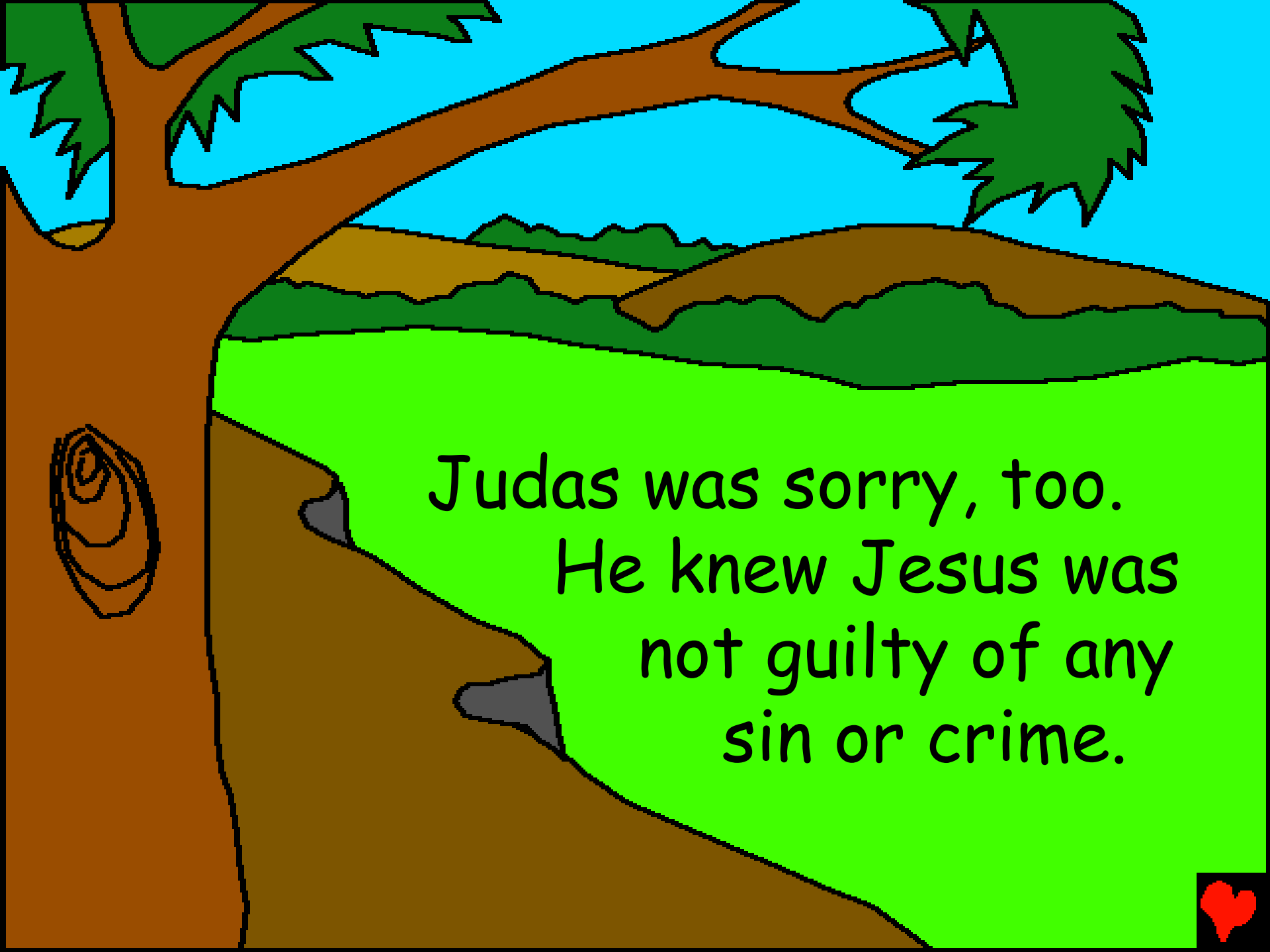


COCK-A-
DOODLE-
DOO



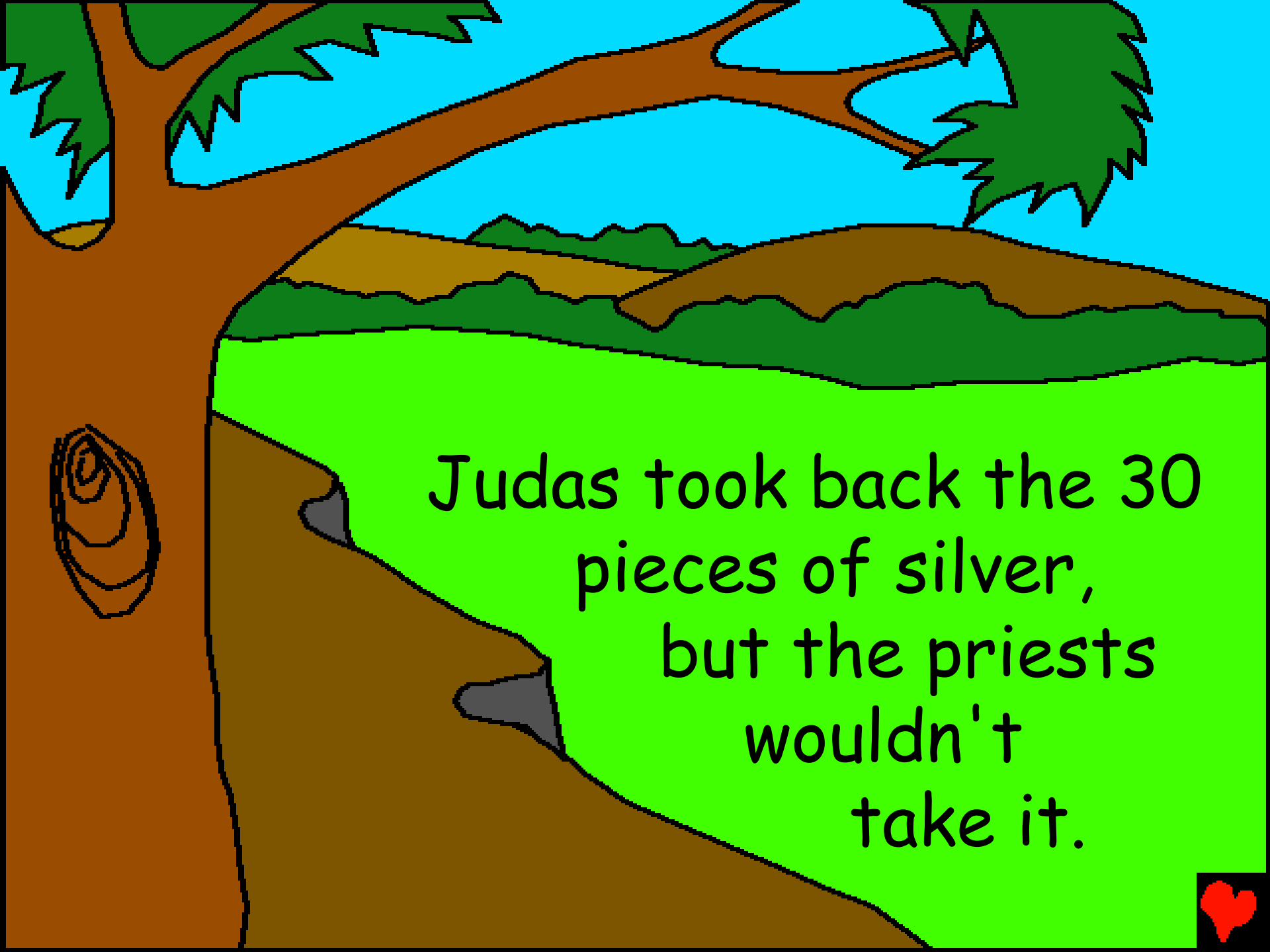
Just then, a rooster crowed. It was like God's voice to Peter. Remembering Jesus' words, Peter wept bitterly.





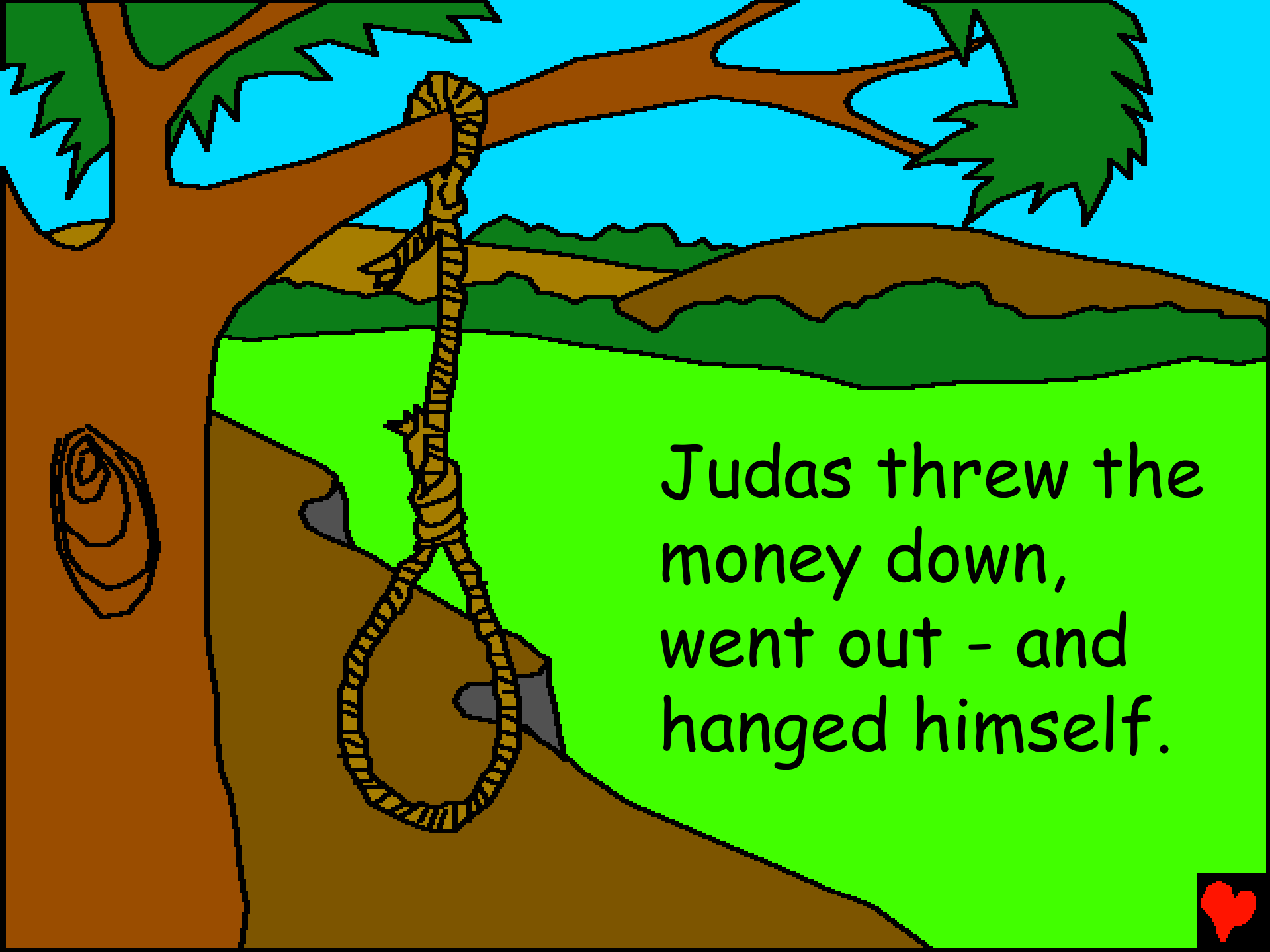
Judas was sorry, too.
He knew Jesus was
not guilty of any
sin or crime.





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.

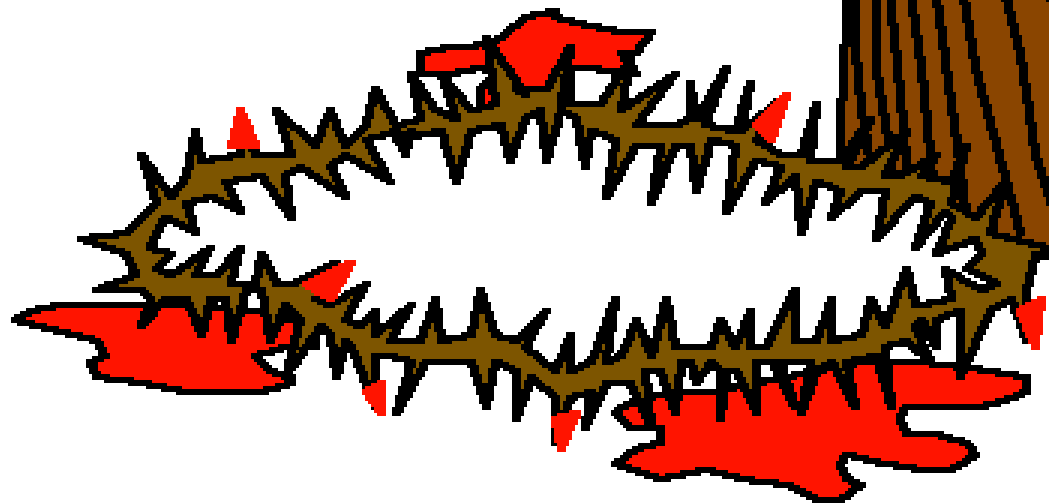




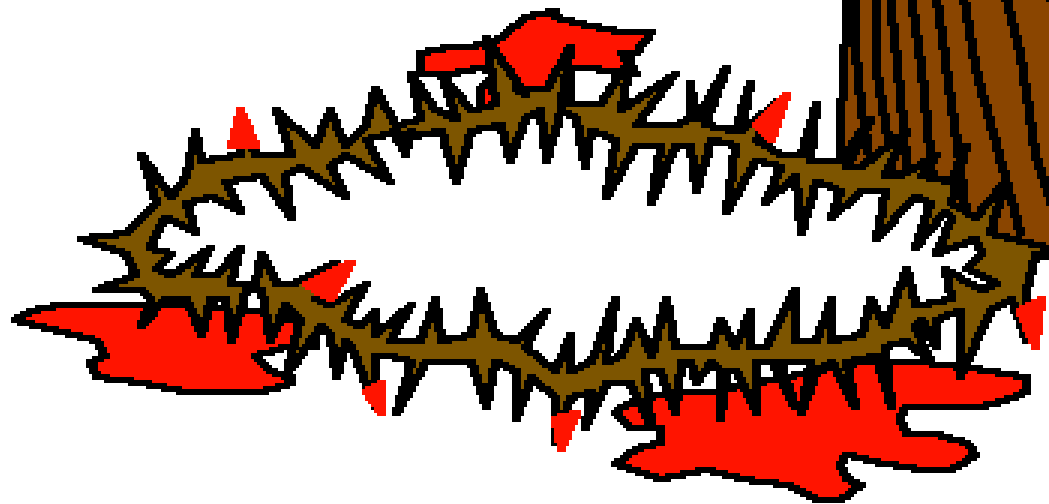
Pilate said, "I have found no fault in this Man." But the mob kept crying, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"



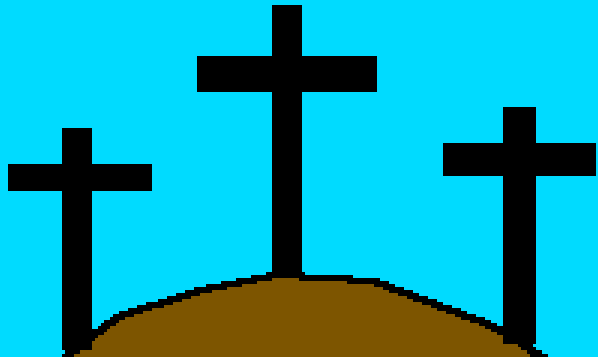
Finally Pilate gave in, and sentenced Jesus to die on a cross. The soldiers punched Jesus, spit in His face, and whipped Him.



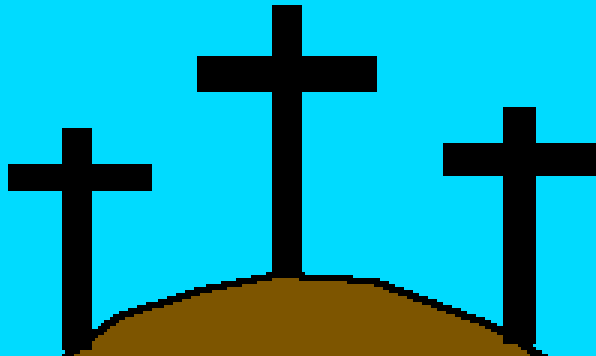
They made a cruel crown
of long sharp thorns and
pressed it onto His head.
Then they nailed Him to
a wooden cross to die.



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.

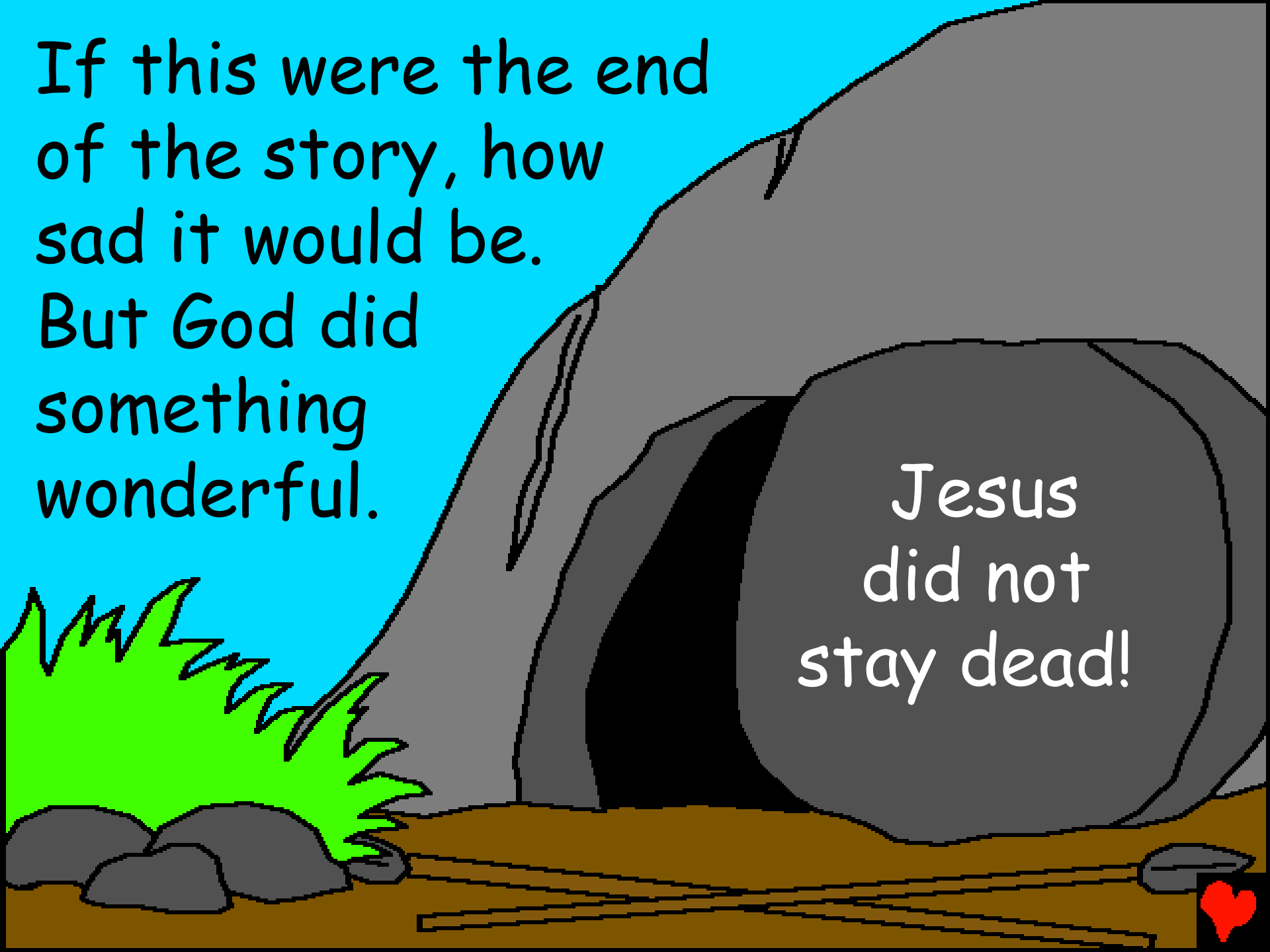
His work was completed. Friends buried Him in a private tomb.



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.

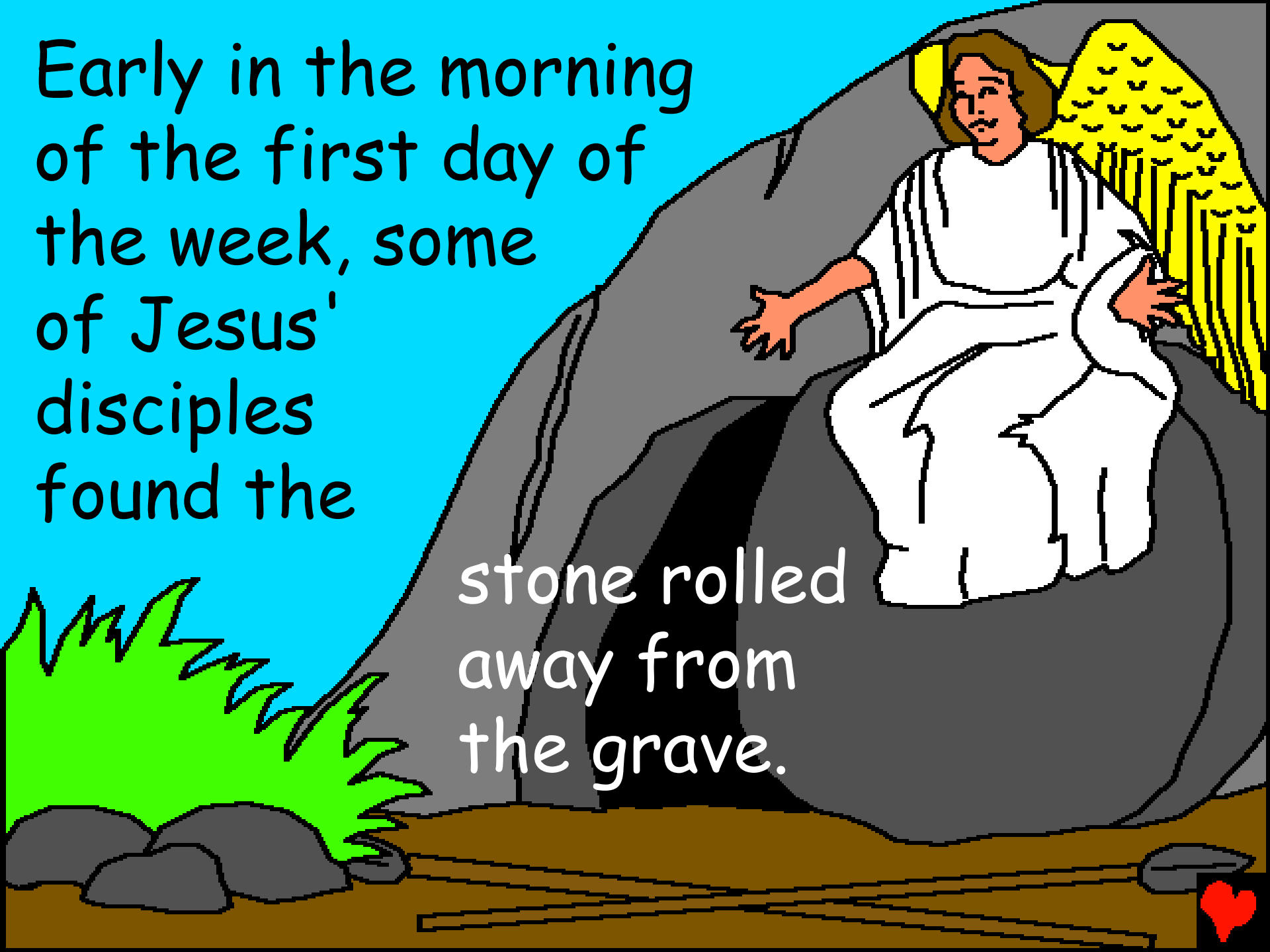


Jesus
did not
stay dead!

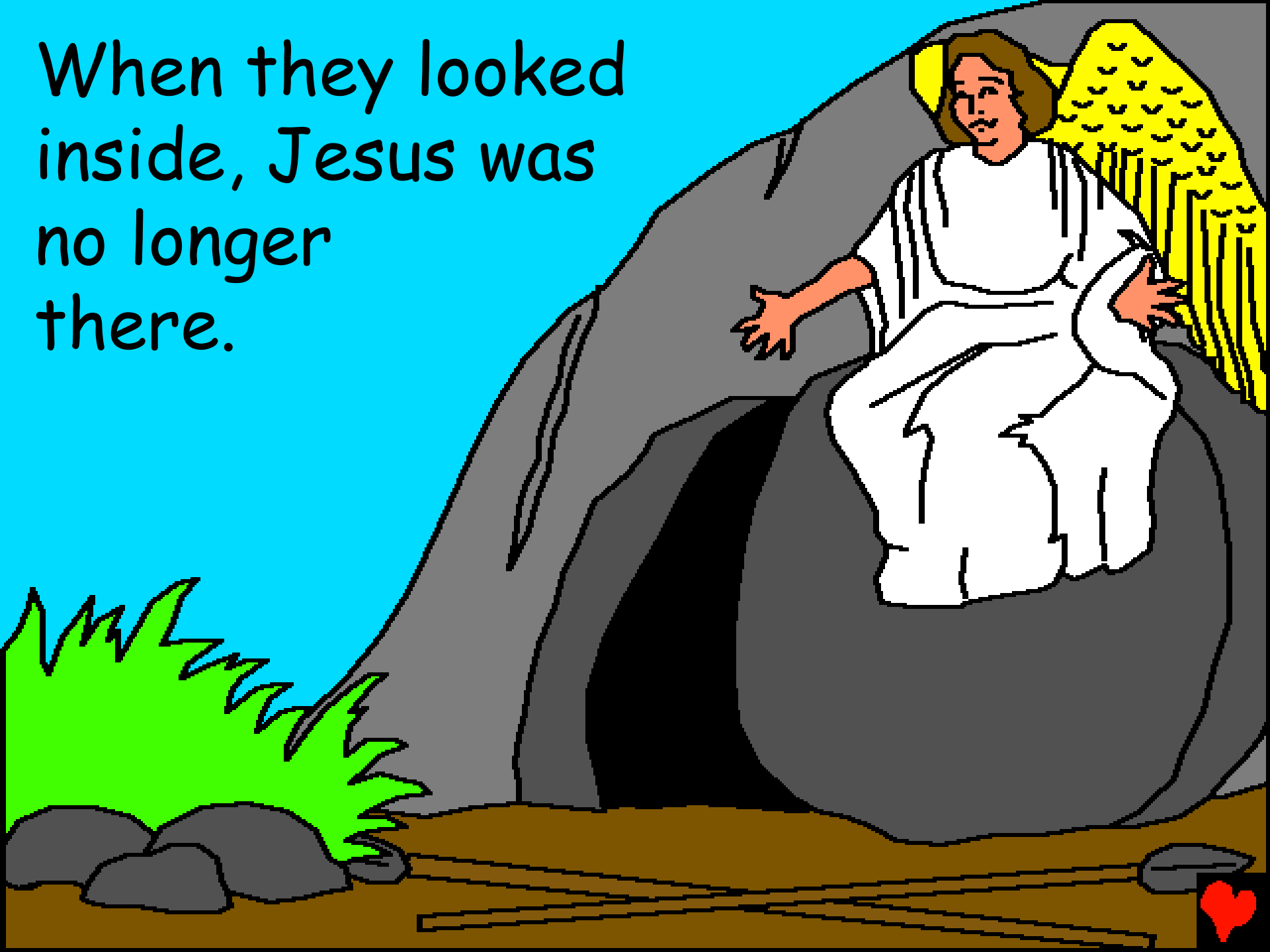


Early in the morning
of the first day of
the week, some
of Jesus'
disciples
found the

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 that first Christmas.



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

