

Bible for Children  
presents

# THE FIRST EASTER



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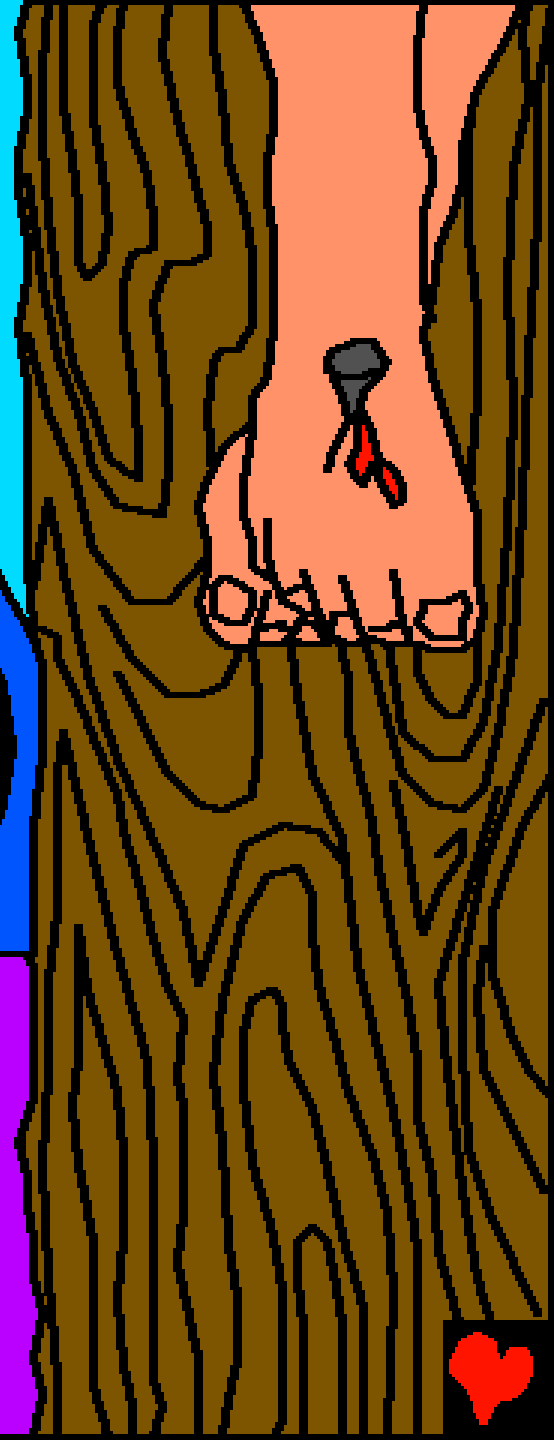
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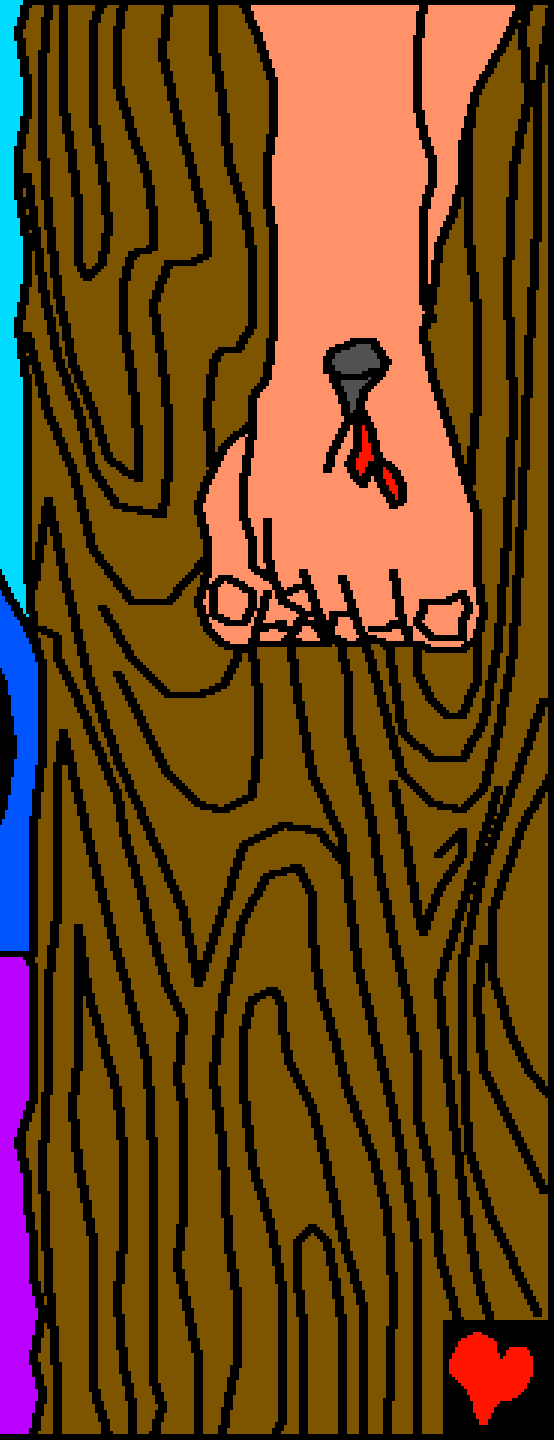
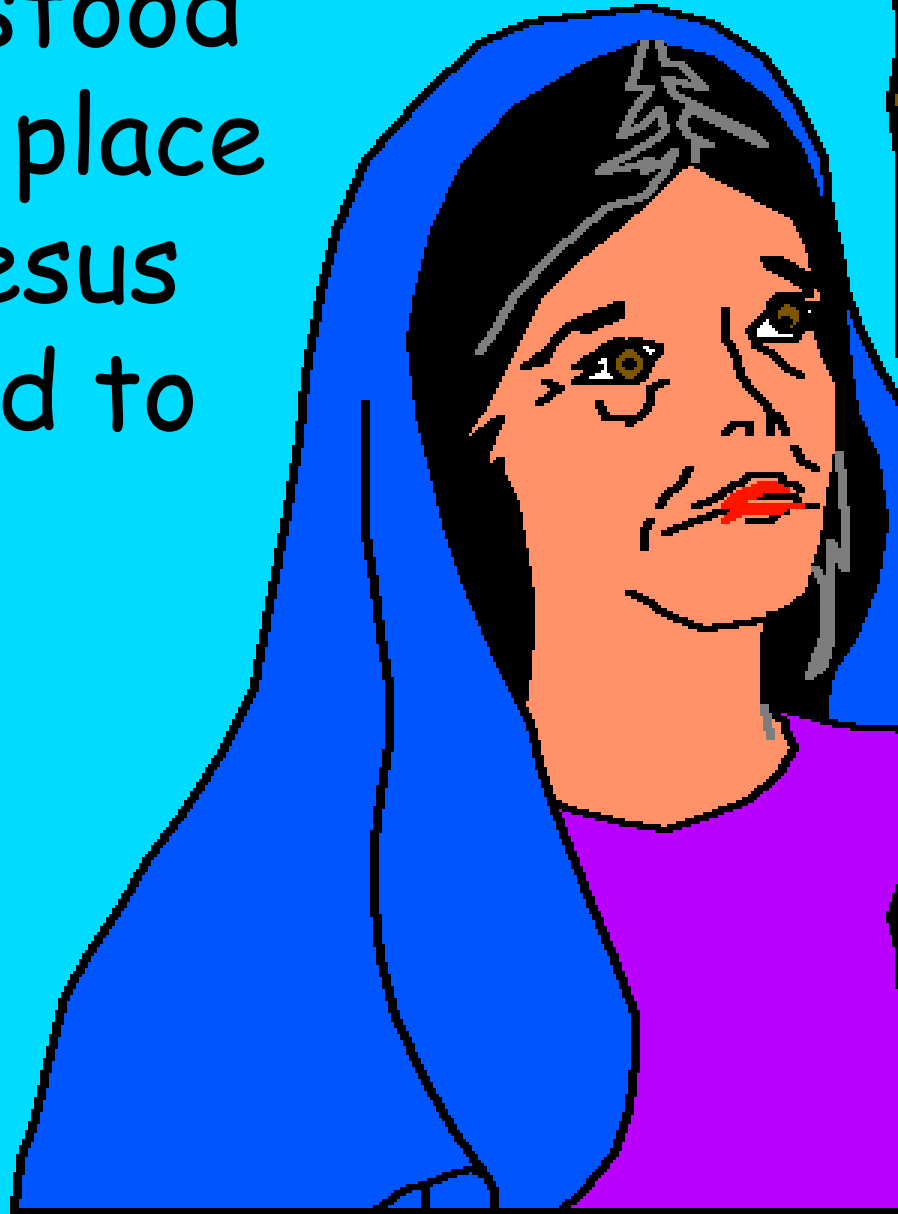
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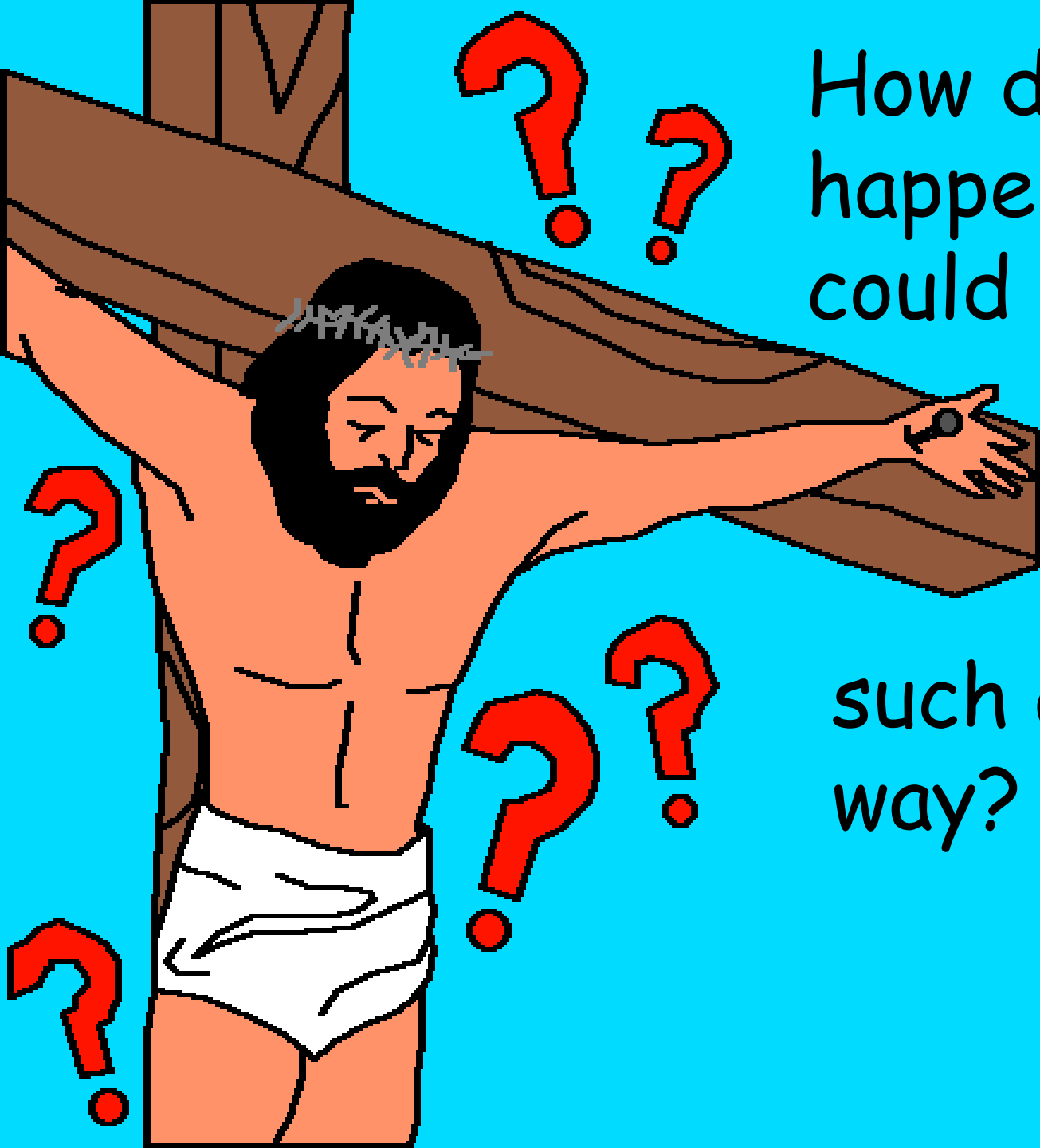


The lady stood on the  
noisy hillside,  
her sad eyes  
looking up to  
a terrible  
scene. Her  
Son was  
dying.



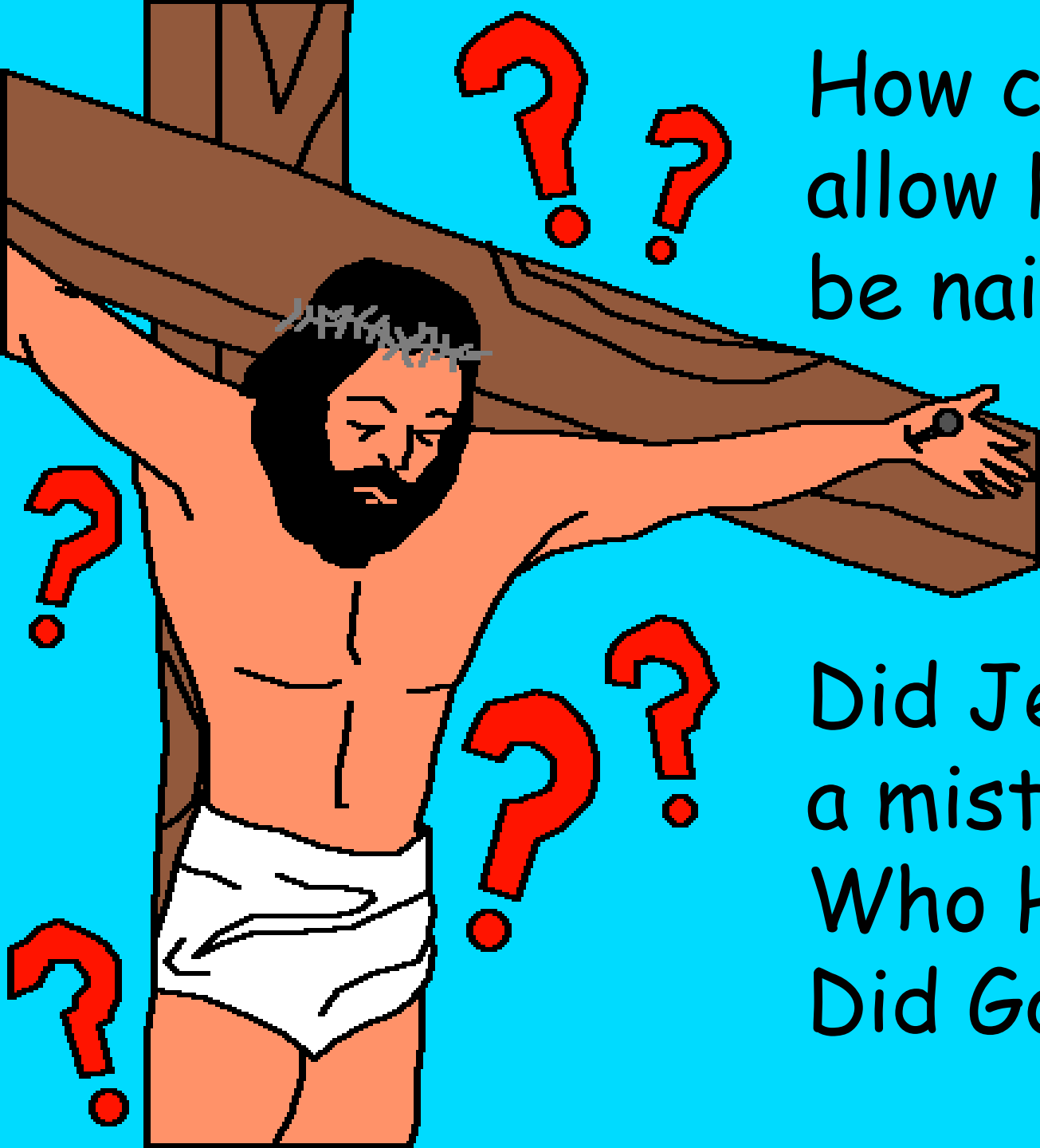
The mother was Mary,  
and she stood  
near the place  
where Jesus  
was nailed to  
a cross.





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?

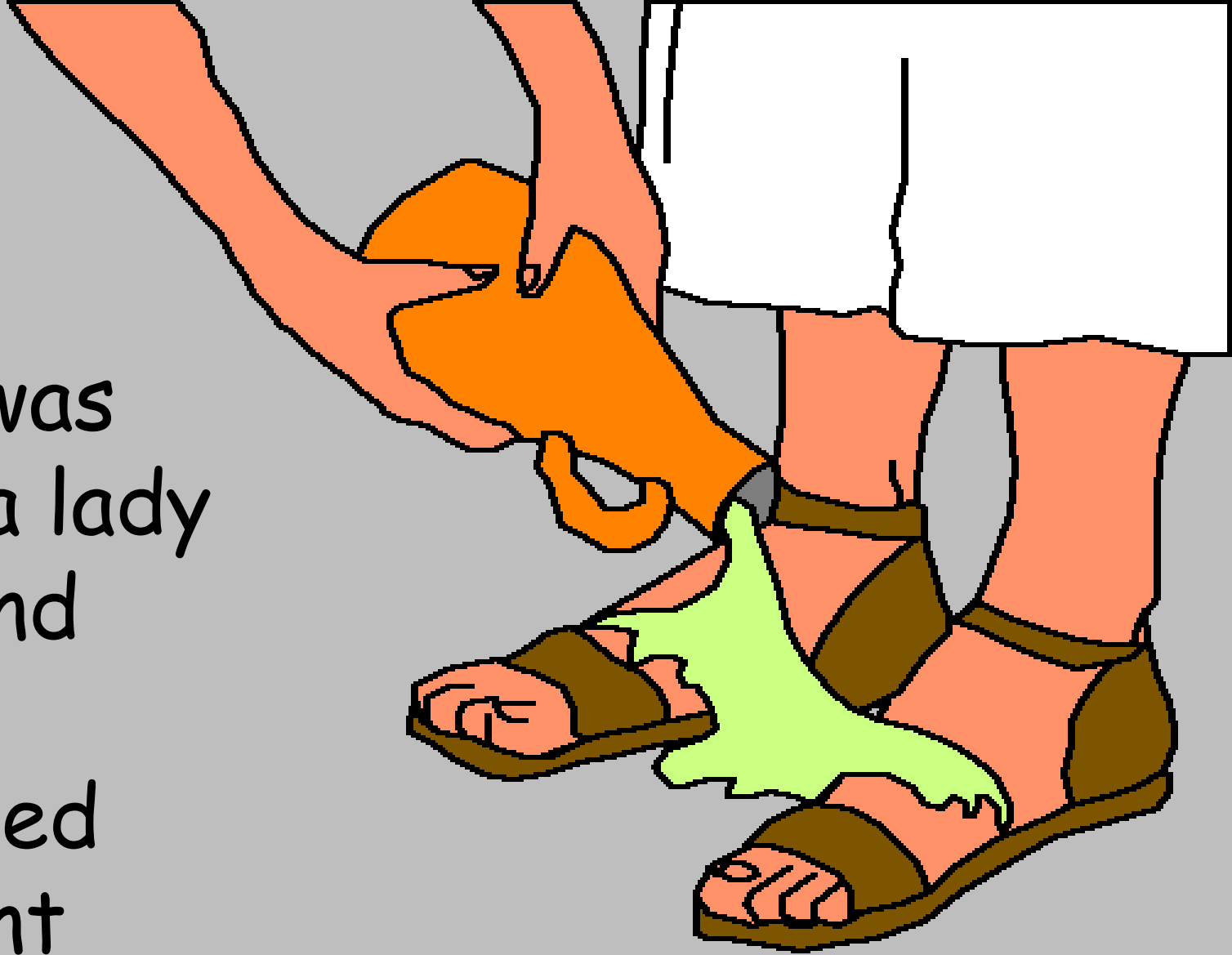




No! God didn't fail.  
Jesus hadn't made any  
mistake. Jesus always  
knew He would be put  
to death by wicked  
men. Even when  
Jesus was a baby,  
an old man named  
Simeon had told Mary  
that sadness lay ahead.



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

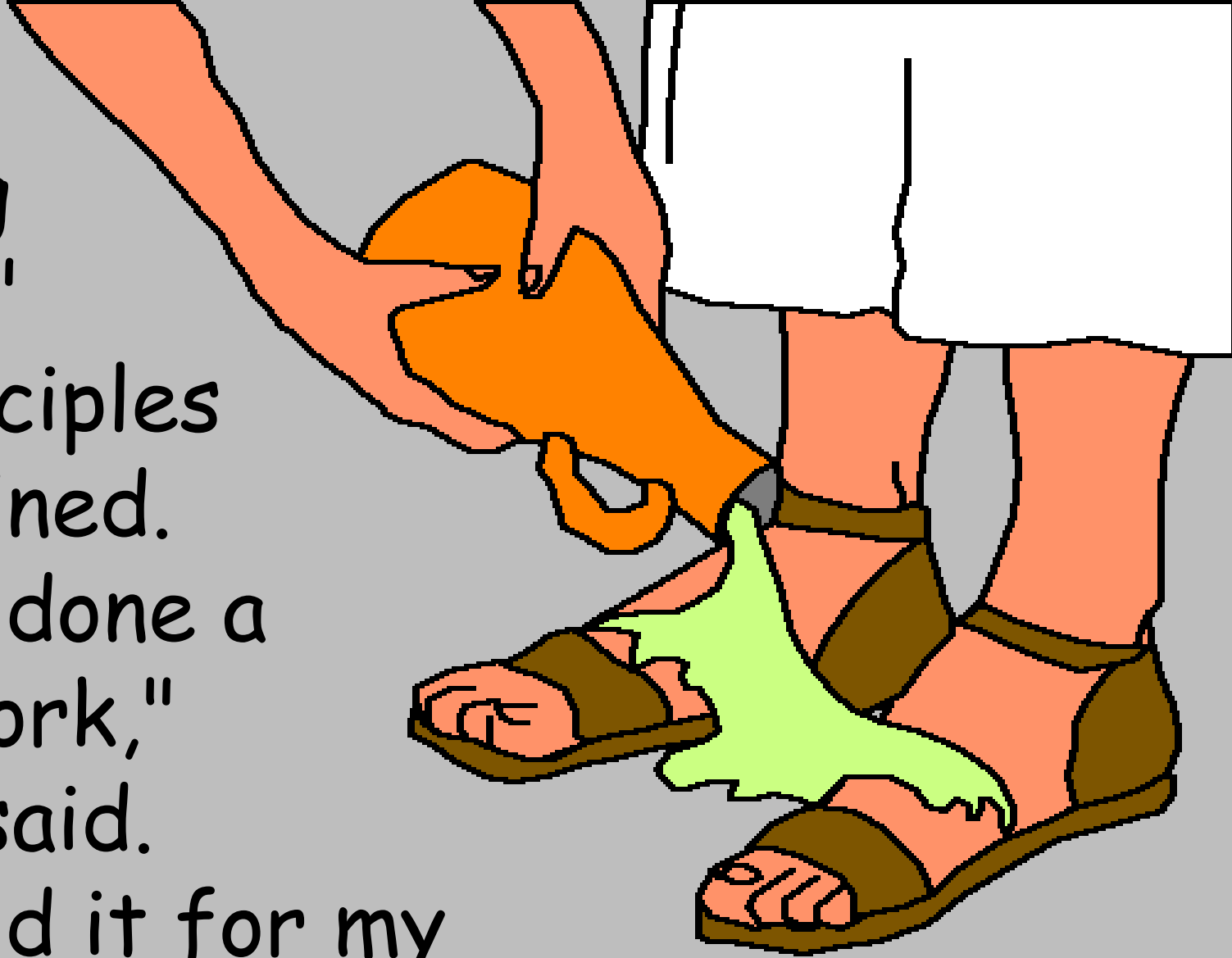




"She's  
wasting  
money,"  
the disciples  
complained.

"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.



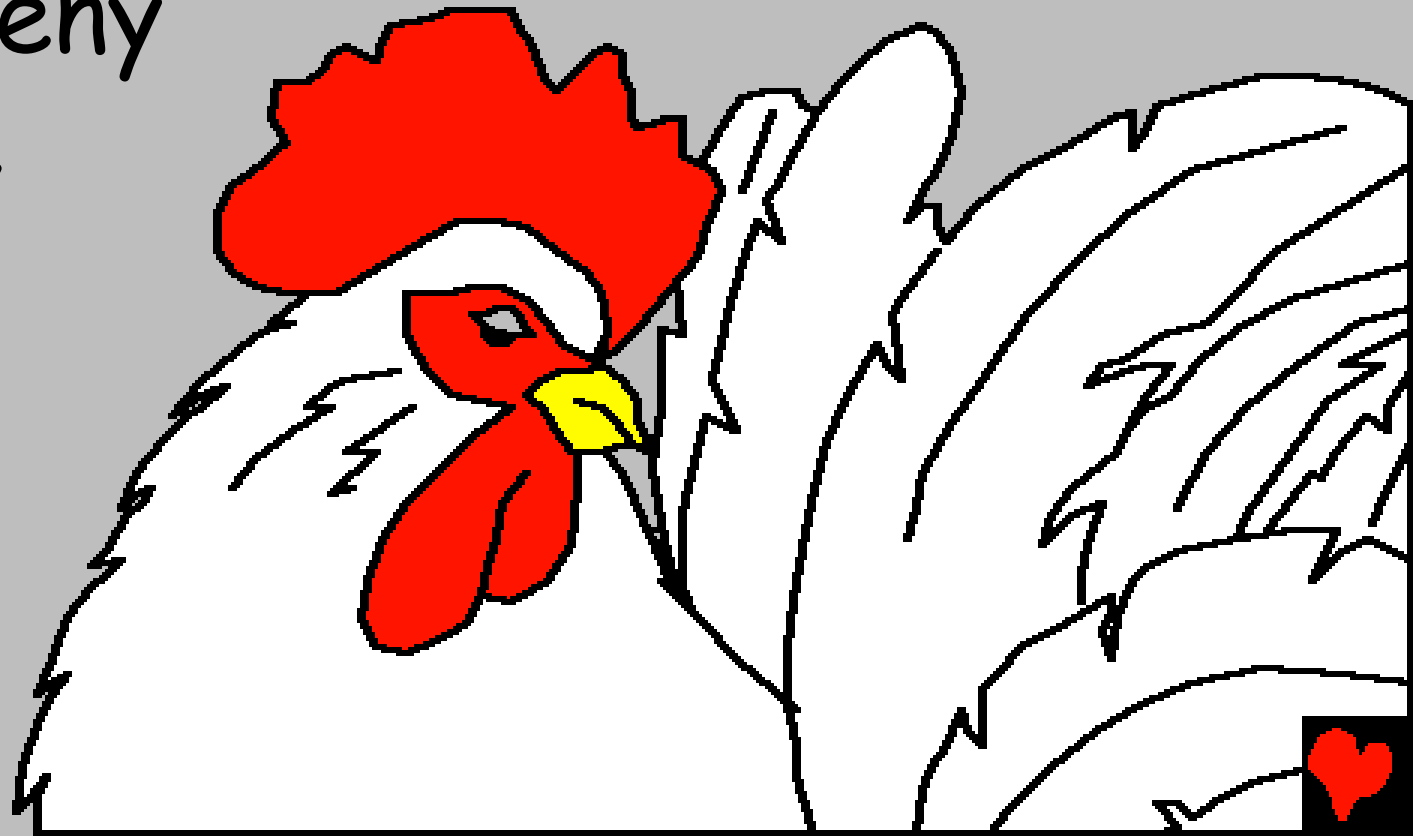
At the Jewish  
Passover feast, Jesus  
had His last meal with  
His disciples. He told  
them wonderful things  
about God and His  
promises  
to those  
who love  
Him.



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.

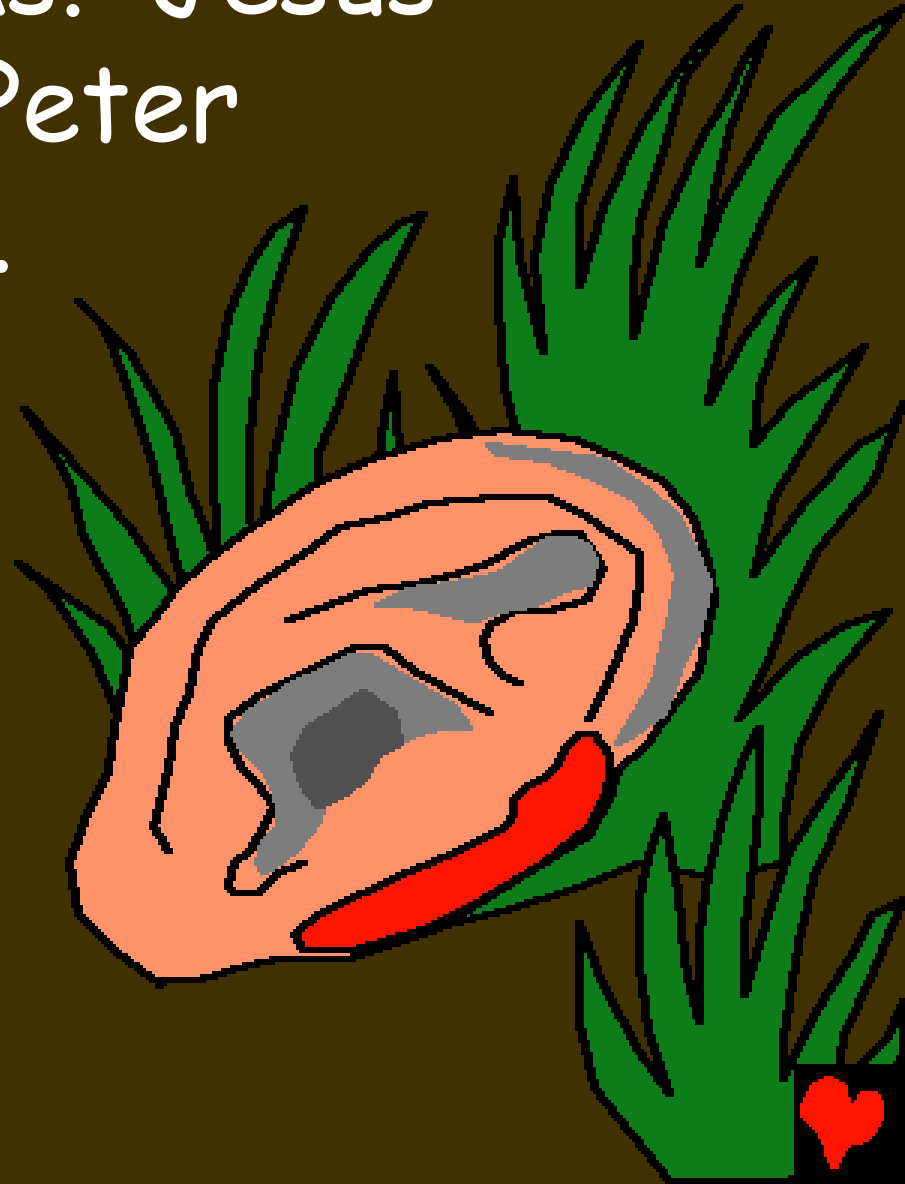




"O My Father,"  
Jesus prayed,  
"... Let this cup  
pass from Me.  
Nevertheless,  
not as I will, but  
as You will."



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!"

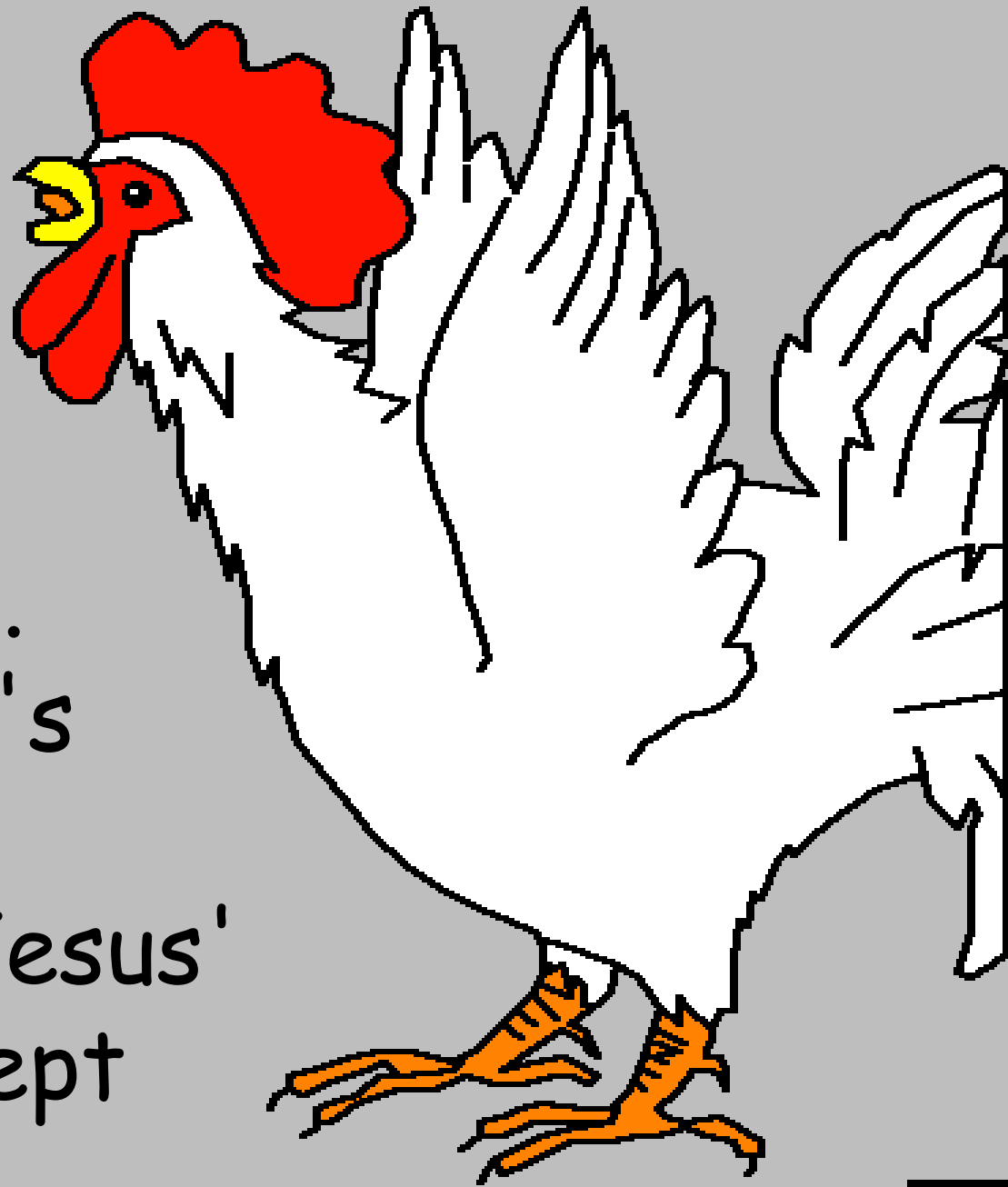


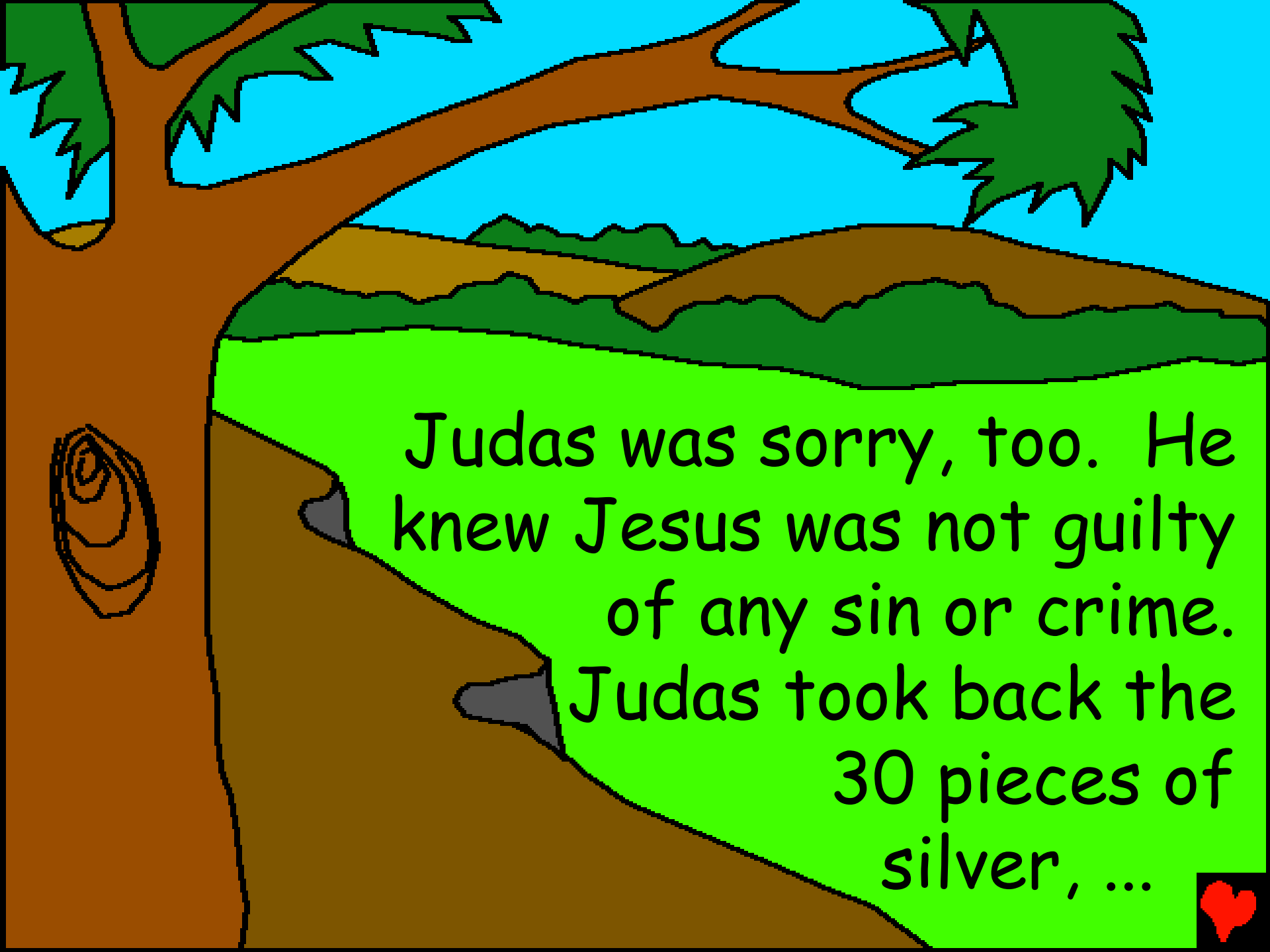
Three times Peter denied it, just as Jesus said he would. Peter even cursed and swore.



COCK-A-  
DOODLE-DOO

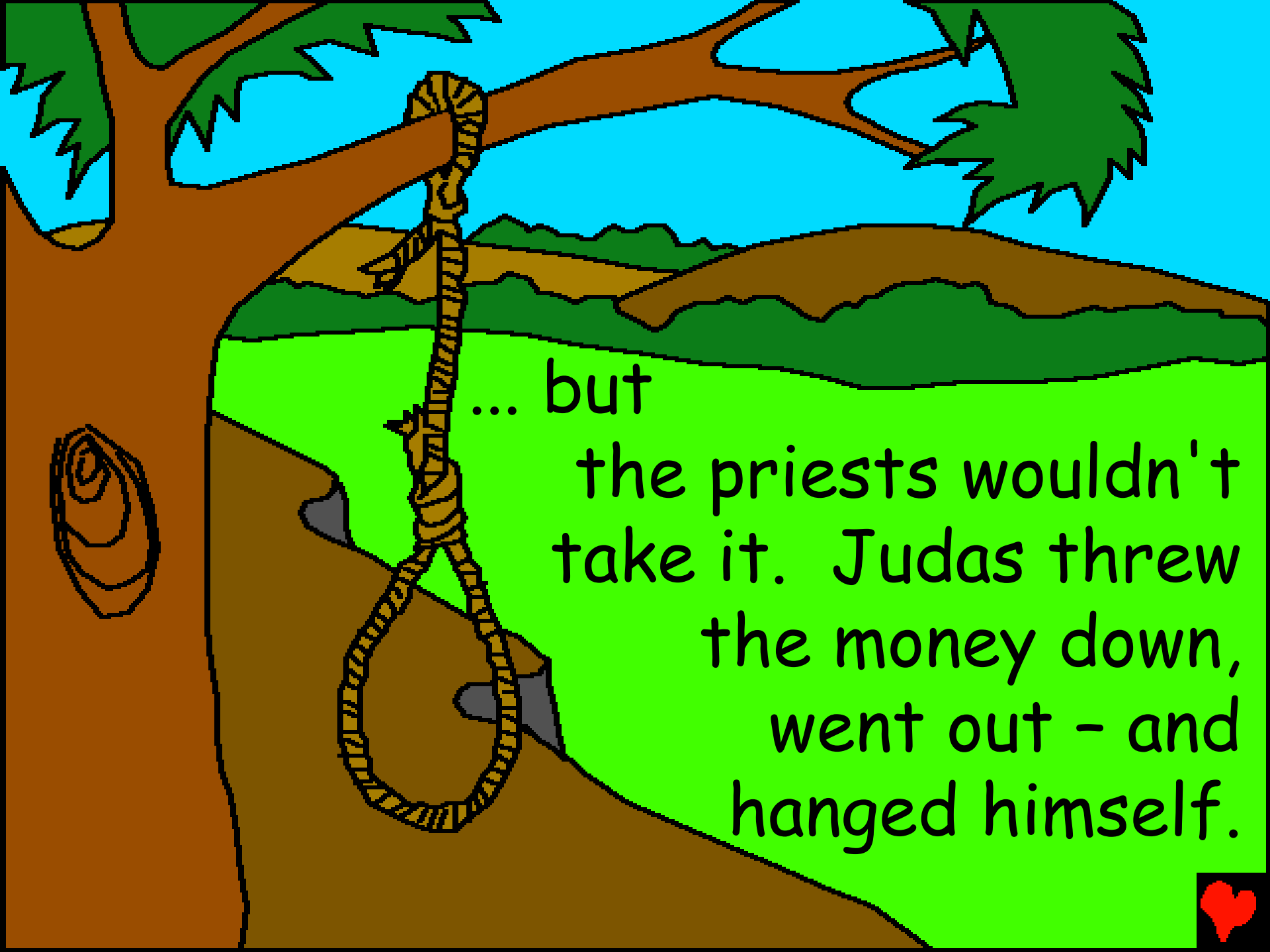
Just then, a  
rooster crowed.  
It was like God's  
voice to Peter.  
Remembering Jesus'  
words, Peter wept  
bitterly.





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

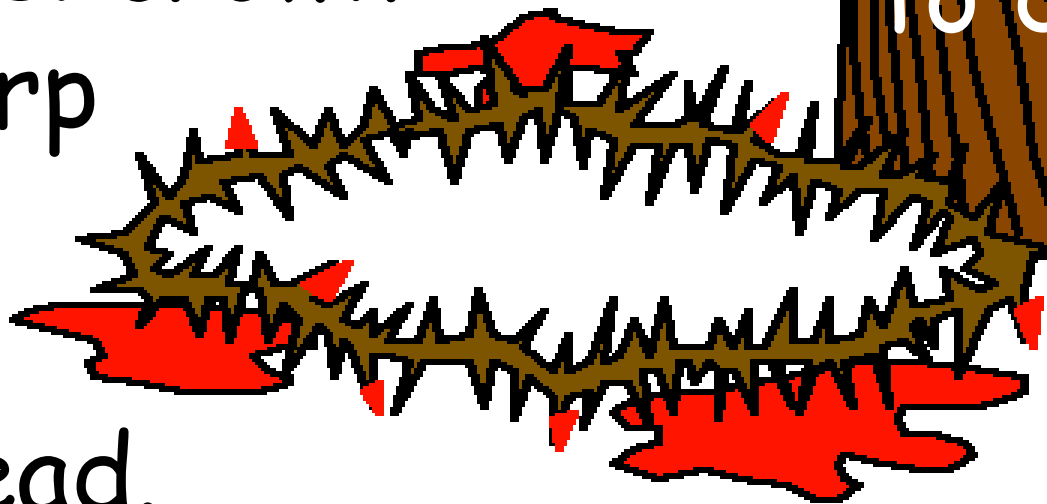
kept crying, "Crucify

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.

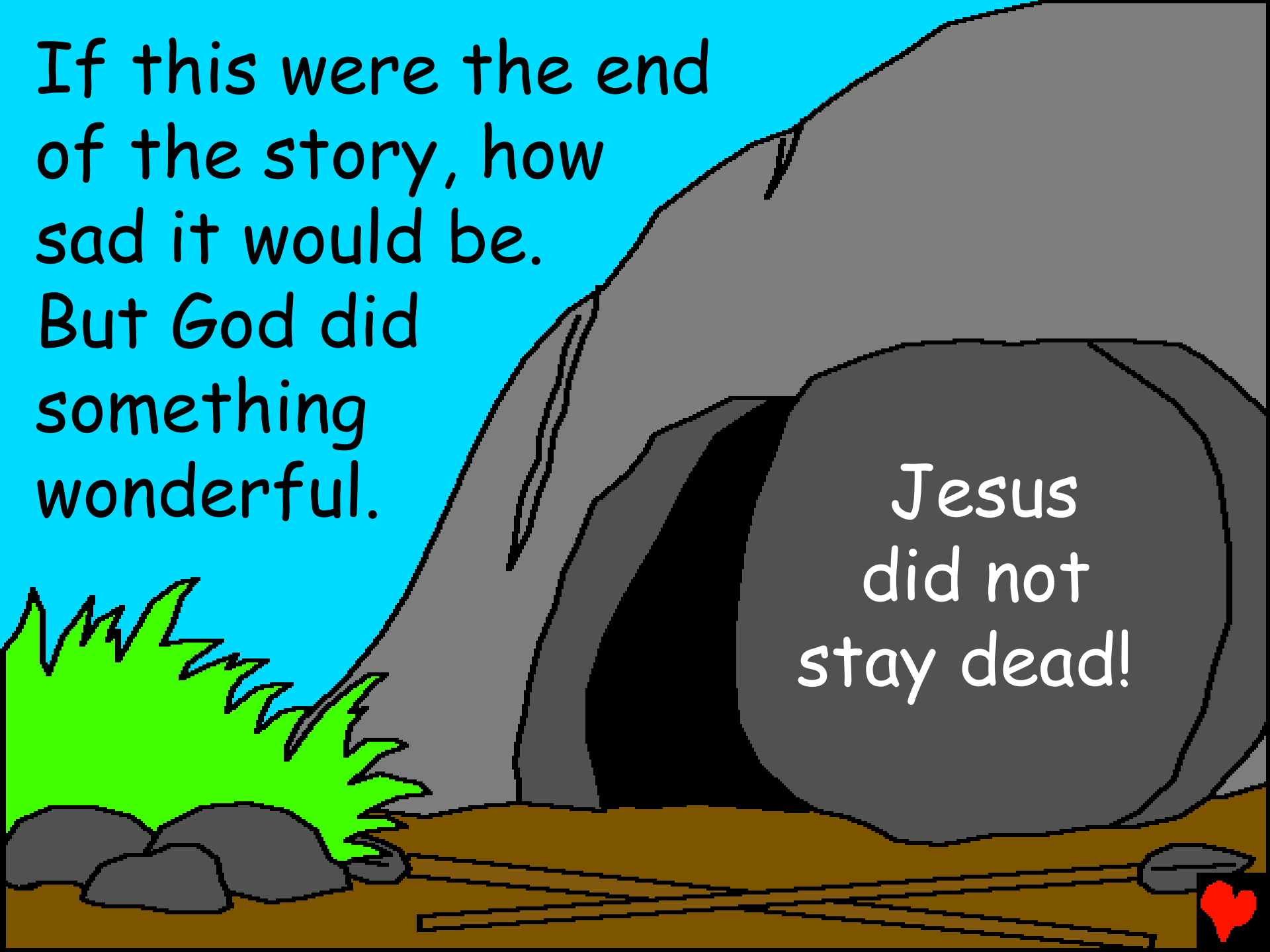
His work was completed. Friends buried Him in a private tomb.



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.

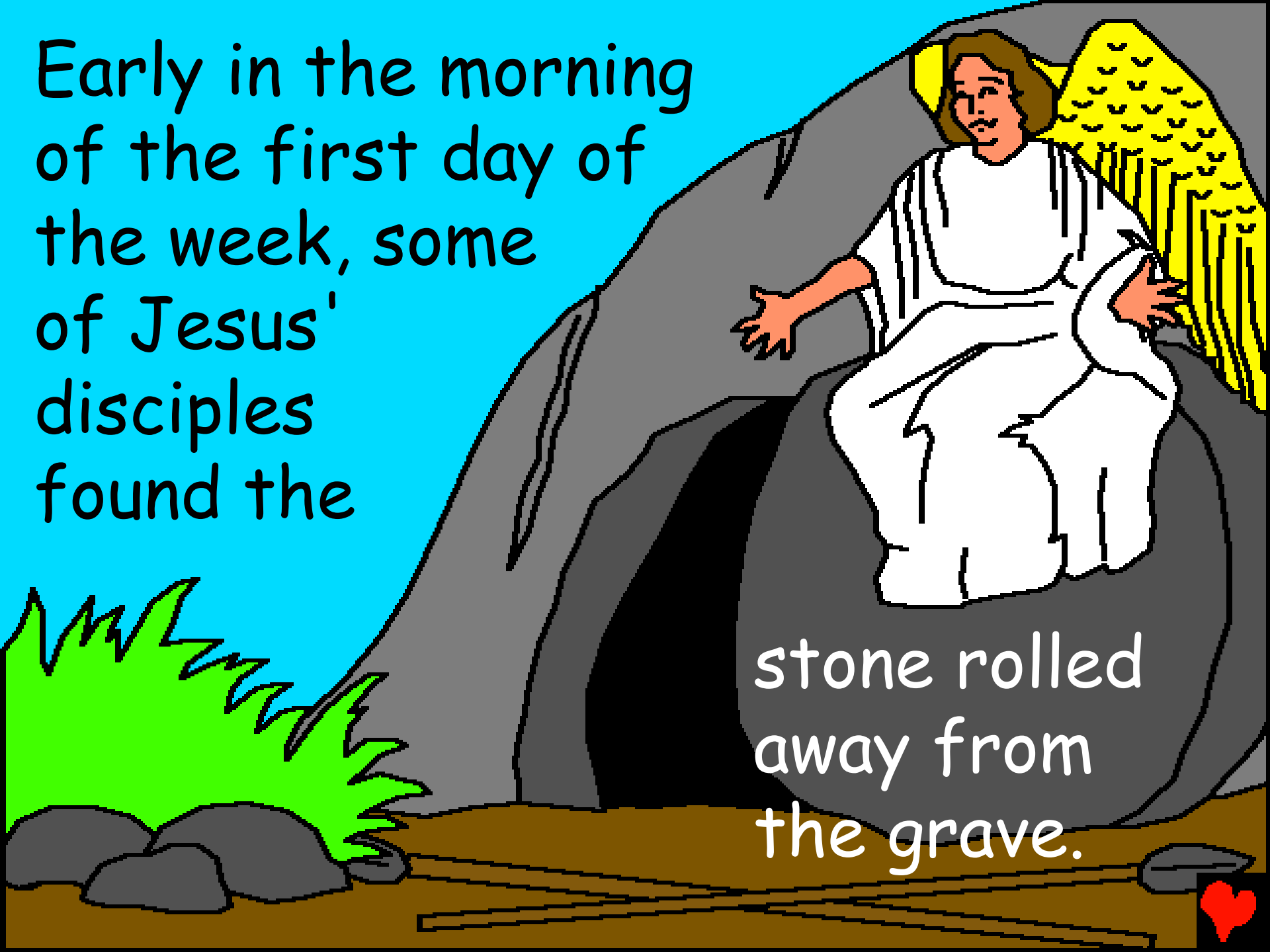


Jesus  
did not  
stay dead!

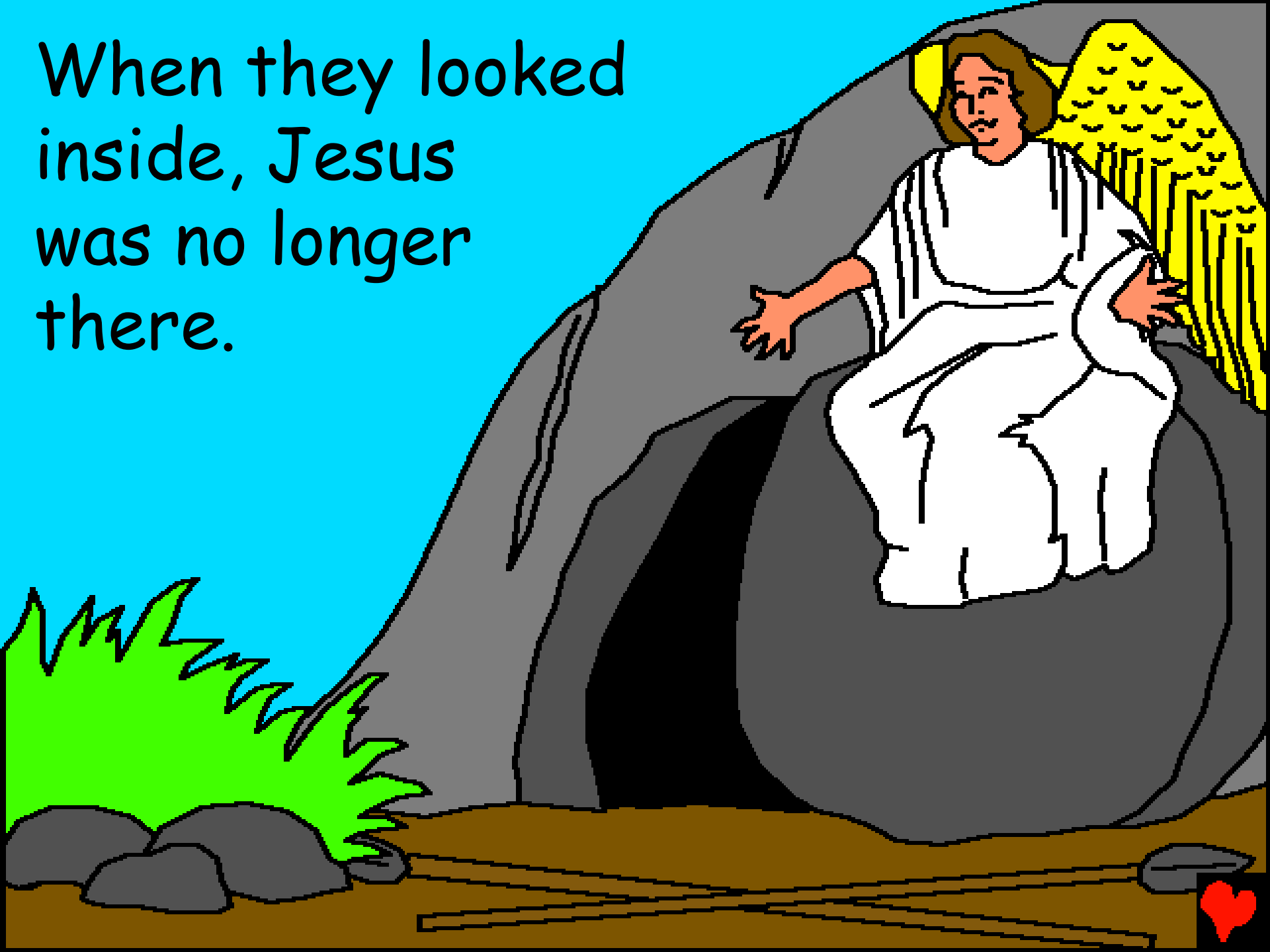


Early in the morning  
of the first day of  
the week, some  
of Jesus'  
disciples  
found the

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.





# 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

