

The UNSTOPPABLE King

Acts 12:1-24

Big Idea: Herod imprisons Peter and plans to execute him, but the Church prays and God rescues Peter miraculously. Herod dies, but the church grows.

Aim: To teach that God is in control and will always win when we try to tell others about Jesus, even when it's hard or people try to stop us.

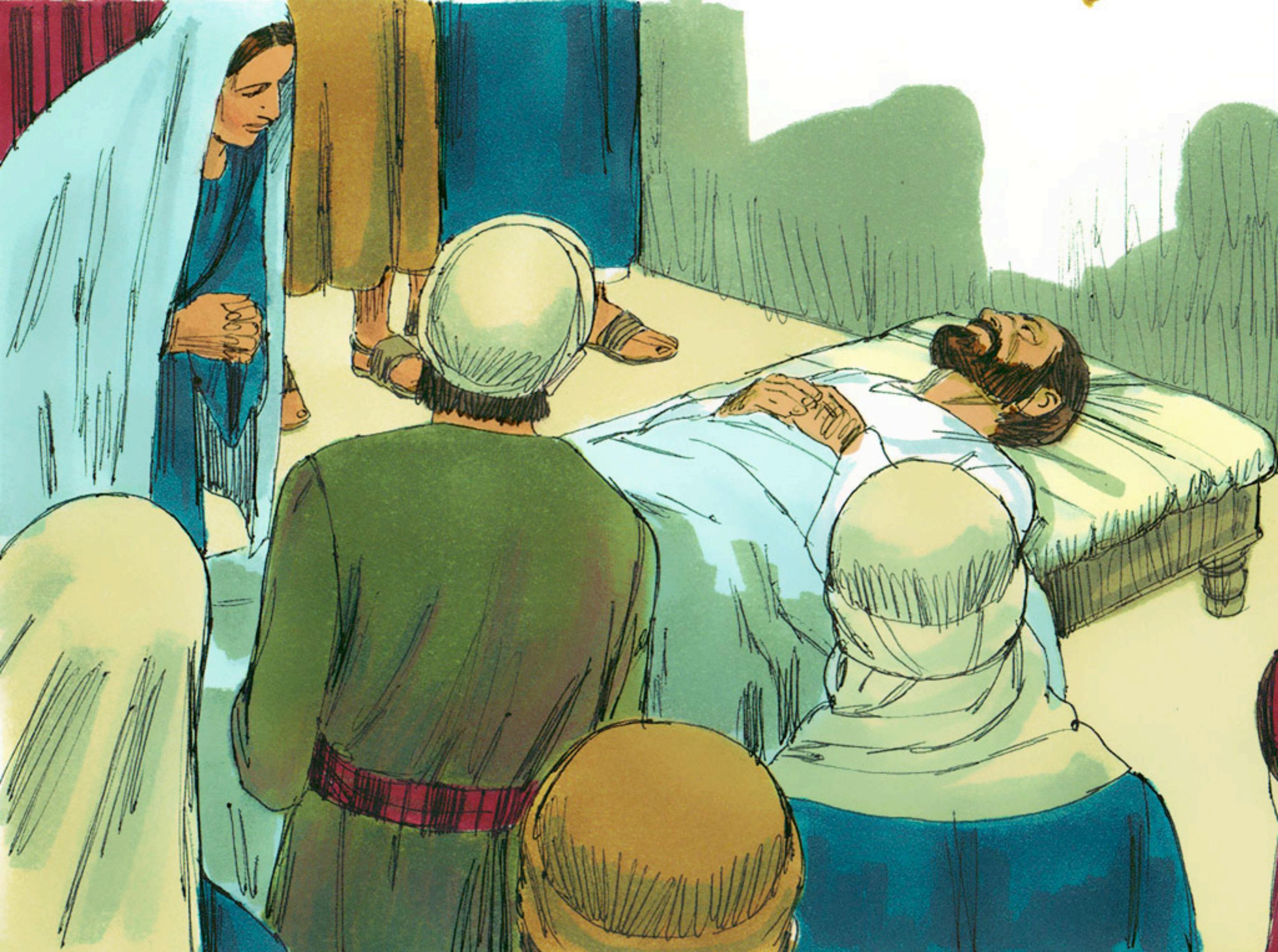
Review

1. Who did Peter think could never be 'in' (become a Christian)? [**Cornelius** (Acts 10:1)]
2. What did God use to change Peter's mind? [**vision of clean and unclean animals** (Acts 10:9-16)]
3. How did Peter know this man was really 'in'? [**Cornelius received the same Spirit as Peter had received at Pentecost** (Acts 10:47)]

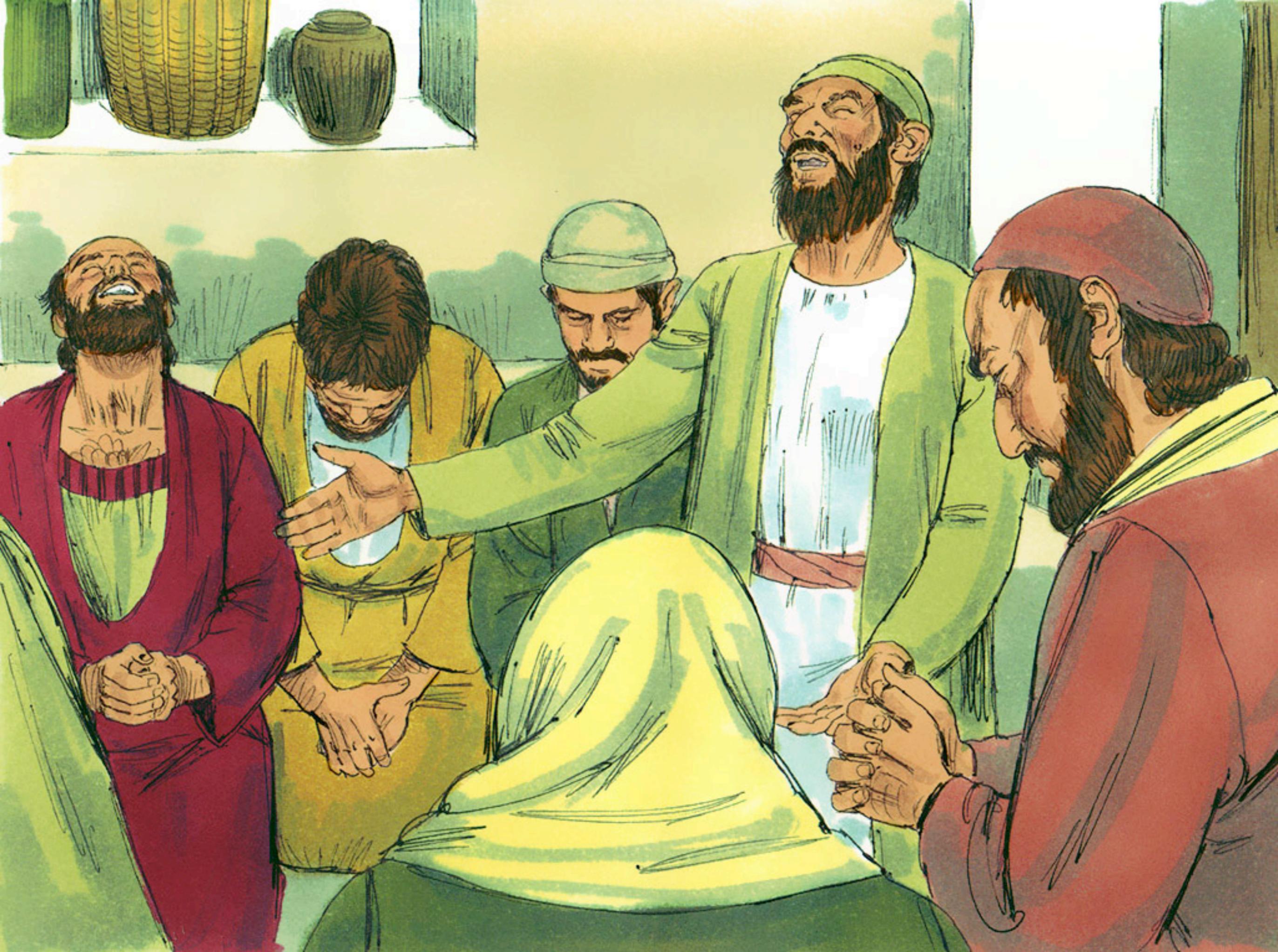
INTRO GAME

In today's true story from the Bible we will learn about someone who tried to silence Peter (stop him from speaking)

Read
THE
STORY







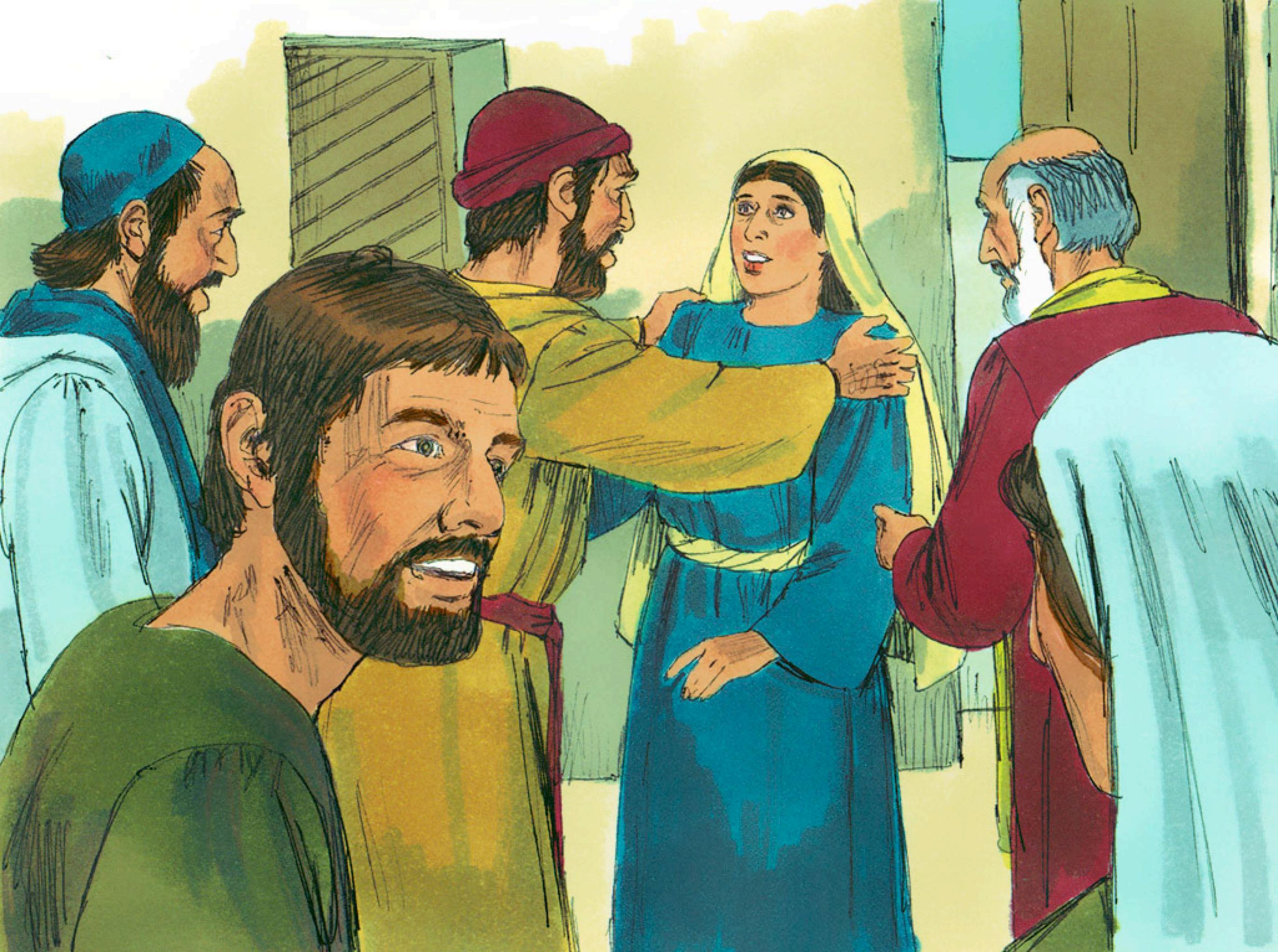


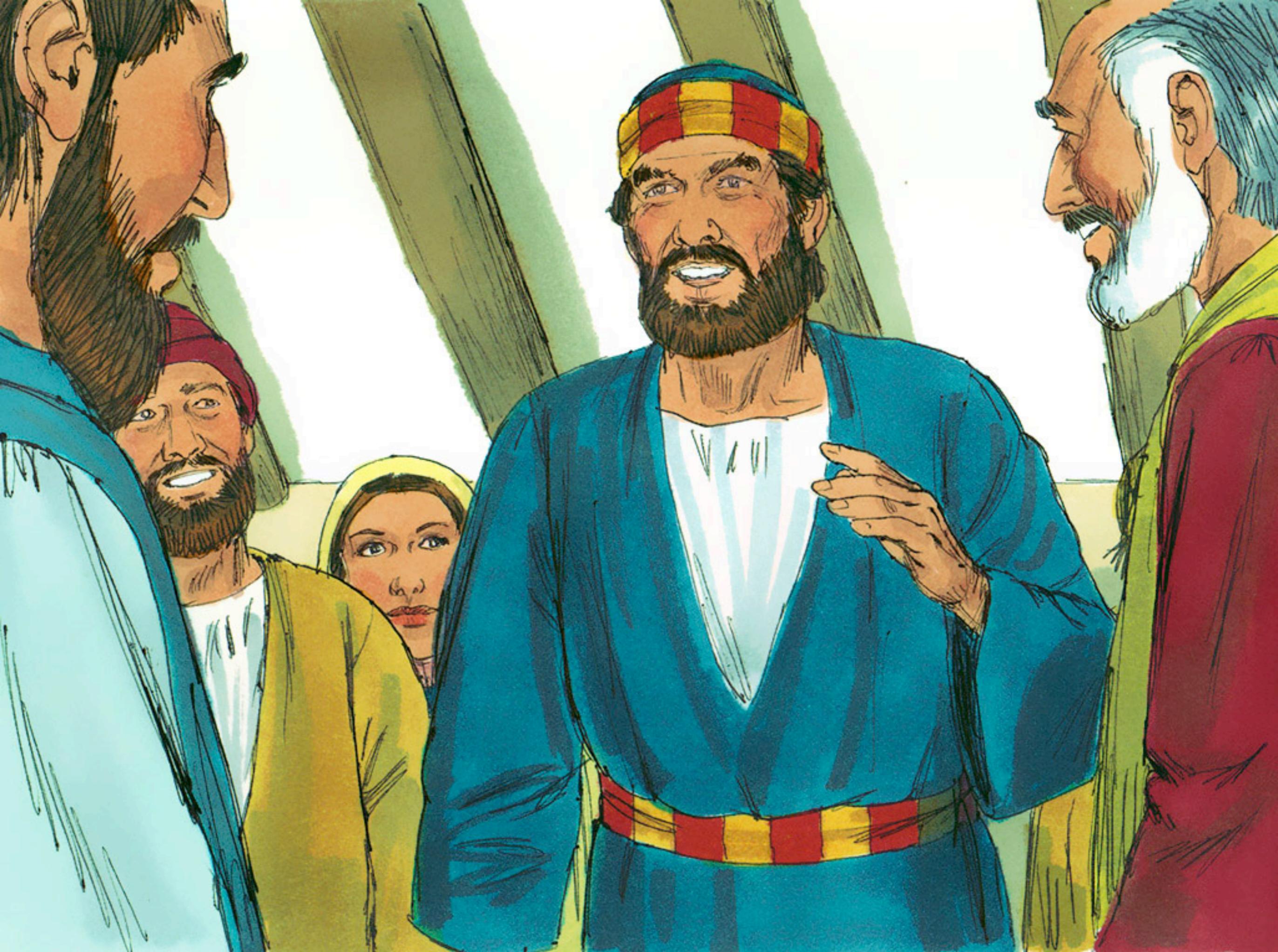
















1 During the Passover holiday feast, King Herod Agrippa arrested some of the Christians in Jerusalem. Among them was James, the brother of John. Herod gave orders to execute James with the sword. Many Jews supported Herod's actions against the Christians.



2 Next, Herod Agrippa had Peter arrested and put in prison. After the Passover Feast Herod intended to put him on trial before the public. Peter was guarded around the clock by four squads of four soldiers.



3 While Peter was in prison, the church met together to pray for him.



4 The night before Peter's trial, he was fast asleep chained between two soldiers with guards by the entrance. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared, lighting up the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. 'Quick, get up!' he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.



5 'Put on your clothes and sandals,' The angel said. Peter did so. 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,' the angel told him.



6 Peter followed the angel, thinking he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it.



7 When they had walked the length of one street, the angel left him. Peter suddenly realised he had been freed from King Herod's clutches. He went to the house of Mary, the mother of John Mark, where many had gathered to pray.



8 Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door. She recognised Peter's voice and was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it shouting, 'Peter is at the door!'



9 'You're out of your mind,' they told her. She insisted she had heard Peter's voice. Peter kept on knocking.



11 In the morning there was a commotion in the prison when the soldiers realised Peter was missing. Herod cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.



10 When they opened the door and saw Peter they were astonished. Peter motioned them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. 'Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this,' he said. Then he left to find a safe hiding place.



12 Some time later, Herod Agrippa went to Caesarea and, wearing his royal robes, gave a public address. The crowd listening shouted, 'This is the voice of a god, not of a man.' King Herod Agrippa enjoyed the flattery. Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down and he died.



CHALLENGE

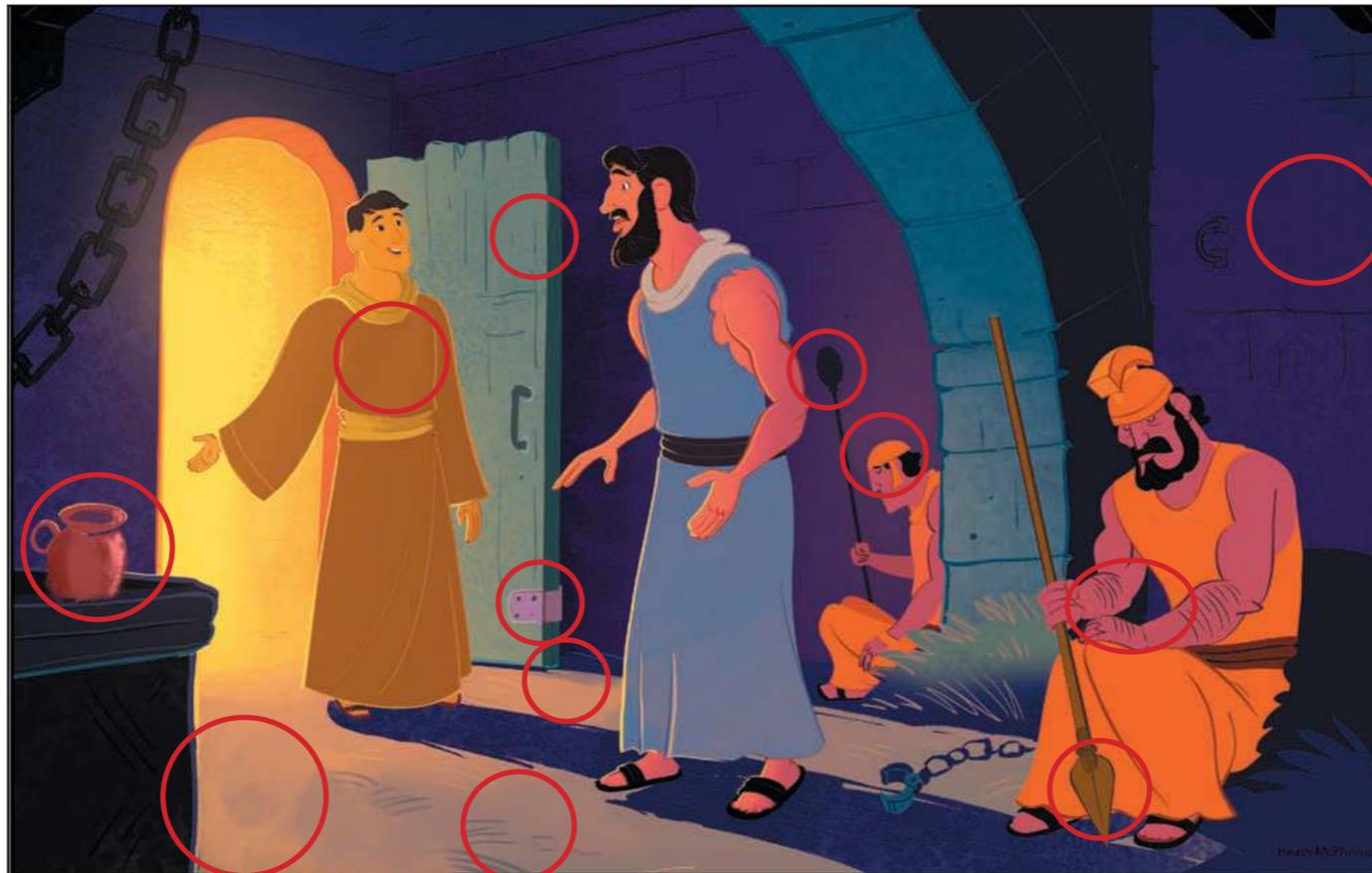
Peter's Rescue From Jail Spot the Differences

Compare the picture on the top with the picture on bottom. Circle the 12 things that are different



Peter's Rescue From Jail Spot the Differences

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ANSWER

MEMORY VERSE *activity* - ACTS 1:8

Stand in a circle as a family. You will need a ball or bean bag. You start with the ball and say the first word of the memory verse (BUT), throw the ball to another family member, they must say the next word (YOU), they throw it to another family member who catches the ball and says (WILL).

If a family member catches the ball and says the incorrect word or can't remember the word, they are out

Please take a photo of the winning member so that I can reward them. I am going to start issuing rewards soon

WaTCH

<https://youtu.be/Rr7Udj8IEUU>

Quiz.. WHAT CAN YOU REMEMBER?

Why did Herod put Peter in prison? v3	What was the church doing while Peter was in prison? v5	How did Peter escape from prison?	Who did Peter realise had rescued him? v11
Whose house did he go to after he escaped? v12	What happened when Peter knocked on the door?	What happened to King Agrippa? v23	What happened to the word of God? v24
The disciples waited in Jerusalem for something they needed in order to do an important job for Jesus. What was it? (2v.4)	What do you need to do to receive forgiveness and the Holy Spirit? (v.38)	Why were the Sadducees not happy with Peter and John? (4:2)	Besides Jesus, how many other ways are there to be rescued? (4:12)
Why were there no needy people in the early church? (4:34)	What was the real problem with what Ananias and Sapphira did?	What does what happened to Ananias and Sapphira teach us about Jesus and what he thinks of the church?	Why did Peter not want to eat the food? (10:14)
Peter's dream seemed to be about what food he could eat. What was God really saying?	In 4v13 what stood out to the Sanhedrin about Peter and John?	How did Peter answer the question in v7? v10	What was your favourite story from our studies in Acts

WHAT THIS STORY

MEANS FOR YOU

<https://youtu.be/MGsZymsZbkc>

PRAY

<https://youtu.be/CbQ1--h0PF8>

Pray

Dear Lord Jesus

We thank you for the past few weeks we have spent in the book of Acts learning about how the church began. We thank you that we can see how powerful you are and that nothing can stop your church from growing here on earth.

We thank you for our church SCC, that we can meet together freely without fear. We know that right now we are not able to meet in person and this makes us sad and we long for the day we will be able to meet together again, but we think of those Christians who are not able to gather together and are persecuted because they are your followers. Please would you help us to daily be praying for these brothers and sisters in Christ, just like the people in Peters day prayed for Him.

We thank you that one day you will put an end to these peoples suffering and that on that day we will, together with them, be able to freely worship you.

Until then, please help us to be thankful for the freedom we have as your people, help us not to waste that freedom and also help us to pray for Christians around the world who are not as fortunate as us.

Thank you that when we pray, we have the great assurance of knowing that you hear our prayers and that you will answer them according to Your will.

Amen

S*i*NG

https://youtu.be/T5Y8s-Sz_ac

<https://youtu.be/-cmwhRoVT2A>