

# May 10, 2026

## Peter's Ministry

Story:

### ★ Introduction & Story:

Last week we talked about Paul. Today we are going to talk about Peter.

As you know Peter was a disciple of Jesus – one of the twelve. He was one of the first disciples that Jesus called. Peter was a fisherman. He fished with his brother Andrew and his partners James and John.

His name was Simon Peter, but Jesus called him Peter. Peter was kind of the spokesman for the disciples. He had a strong personality and often said or did things that were not what Jesus would want him to say or do. Jesus would lovingly teach and guide him.

(Matthew 14:22-33) Once, when seeing Jesus walking on the water, he got out of the boat and tried to walk on the water himself. He did it for a little while, but then he took his eyes off Jesus and began to sink. This is one of several times Jesus had to reprimand him for things he said or did.

(John 18:10-11) When Jesus was arrested, it was Peter who drew his sword and cut off the ear of a servant of the high priest. Jesus immediately told him to put his sword away. Peter boasted that he would never forsake the Lord, even if everyone else did - and later denied that he knew Jesus three times (**Luke 22:54-62**).

Through all of Peter's good times and bad, Jesus continued to love him and guide him. Jesus told Peter that he would be instrumental in establishing the Church (Matthew 16:18). After His resurrection, Jesus made a special point to Peter that he had been forgiven for denying him and made sure Peter knew that his relationship with Jesus was restored (John 21:15-17). Jesus still wanted him to lead and serve.

On the day of Pentecost when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit, Peter was the one who stood up and talked to the people about Jesus. 3,000 people were saved that day (Acts 2:14-41).

Jesus gave Peter the ability to heal people. He healed a man who had been lame since he was born and had never walked a step in his life. He also raised a lady named Dorcus who had died.

(Acts 12) Peter went to prison several times for preaching about Jesus. One time, when he was in prison, he was chained to two other soldiers. It was about midnight and he was asleep. An angel came to him and woke him up. When he stood up, the chains fell off. The angel led him outside the prison and then disappeared. He hurried to Mary's home where the believers were praying for Peter's release.

When he arrived there, he knocked at the door of the outer gate, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer. She recognized Peter's voice, and because of her joy, she did not open the gate but ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the outer gate. The people in the house thought that she was crazy. But she kept insisting that it was true, and they said, "It's his angel." Peter, however, kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were amazed.

Peter wrote two books of the New Testament - I and II Peter. In these letters, Peter shares that Jesus suffered for us, so it will be okay if we suffer for Him. He also tells believers to know the Word because there are false teachers in the church.

Peter is an important part of the Early Church as He personally knew Jesus and shared His teachings with the world. He was an important leader in the first church.

#### ★ **Connection to God's Overall Story/Plan:**

**God's Plan:** When God chose His 12 disciples, He chose them very specifically. Jesus knew Peter and knew that Peter would be involved in helping start the first church. Peter was not perfect - we learned about his flaws, but he was important.

**Historical:** There is a strong belief that Peter's house and Peter's burial site have been discovered. There is evidence that others wrote about Peter; he isn't just in the Bible, but he is known through other writings, as well.

**Theological:** Peter stated that Jesus was the Son of the Living God (Matthew 16:16). This is the entire foundation of the church.

Also, Peter represents that God gives grace and forgiveness when He chooses His people.

### Follow Up:

- ★ **Retell:** Have kids share what they recall from the story. Fill in any major holes they missed.
- ★ **Examine:**
  - Comprehension Questions:
    - Peter sometimes chose to do or say the wrong things. Jesus always loved him and forgave him. Do you sometimes do or say the wrong things? Do you know that Jesus loves you even then.
    - Do you think Peter did or said the wrong things because he knew Jesus would just forgive him anyway?
    - What do you think about the story of the believers praying for Peter's release from prison, but then having a hard time believing that it was true when he was released?
  - Ask, "What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?"
    - He uses imperfect people. He suffered for us. He knows us and wants us to know Him.
  - Ask, "What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?"
    - We have a choice. We can do the right thing, even if it is hard. We can know God and know when people aren't leading us correctly.
- ★ **Application:** Ask, "What is Jesus asking us to do through this story? Why did God include this in the Bible?"
  - Peter was a rough dude. But he had a role. He didn't go to school forever. But he was faithful. We need to be faithful.
- ★ **Prayer**

### Memory Verse Practice:

★ **Verse:** Casting all your cares on him, because he cares about you. -- 1 Peter 5:7 (CSB)

### Sticky Activities:

★ Worksheets & coloring pages

★ **Sensory:**

○ **EXPERIENTIAL**

■ “Follow Me” Fishing Call Experience

- Set up a “shoreline” with nets, paper fish, and boats.
- Kids “fish,” then hear Jesus say, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”
- Kids leave nets behind and follow a leader.

■ “Bold for Jesus” Pentecost Roleplay

- Create a crowd scene where one child plays Peter sharing the gospel.
- Others respond by asking questions.

○ **VISUAL**

■ Peter Timeline Wall

- Create stations: Fisherman, Walking on Water, Denial, Restoration, Pentecost, Cornelius.
- Kids move through each stage visually.

■ Net-to-Cross Object Lesson

- Show fishing net, rooster, and cross images.

○ **SMELL**

■ Sea of Galilee: Use salty water, seaweed scent, or ocean-scented items.

■ Charcoal Fire: wood scent (Peter denied Jesus around a fire)

○ **TOUCH**

■ Net and Rope Exploration: Let kids touch fishing nets, rope, or rough fabric.

■ “Rock” Naming Station

○ **MOVEMENT**

■ Walking on Water Balance Path

- Blue paper “water” with stepping stones.
- Kids step while keeping eyes on Jesus.

■ Run to the Tomb Race

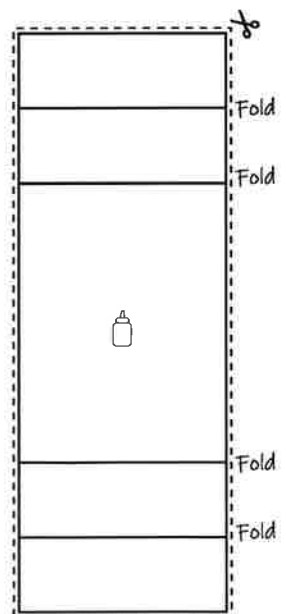
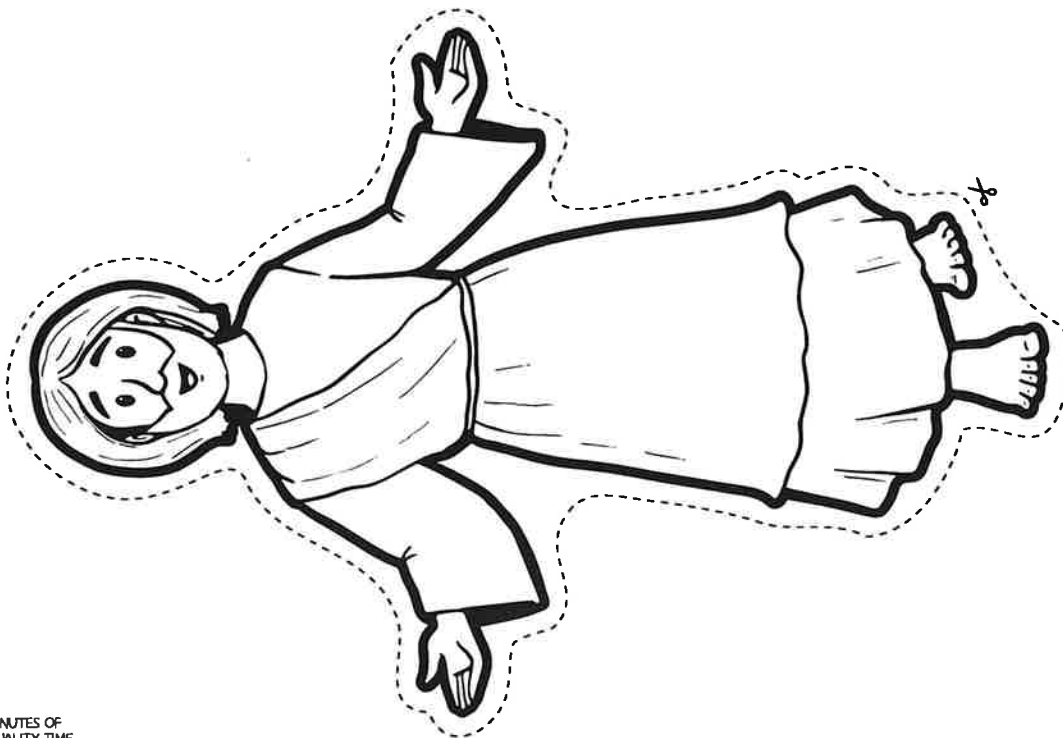
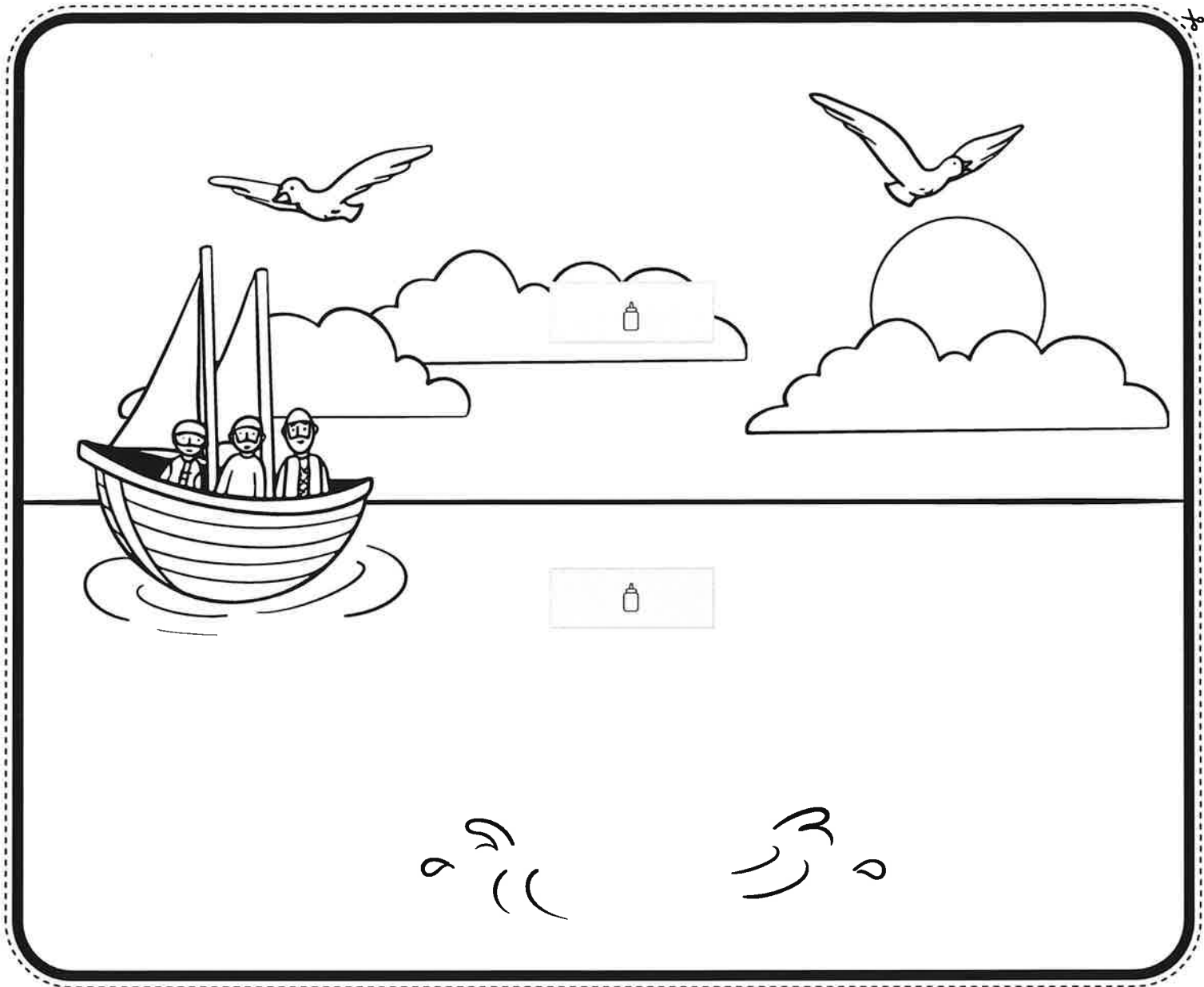
- Kids race to a “tomb” station like Peter after resurrection news.
- **SOUND**
  - Rooster Crowing
  - Holy Spirit/Pentecost: Use fans, rushing wind audio, and crowd noises.
- **TASTE**
  - Fish-Shaped Crackers Snack
  - Breakfast by the Shore
- **CRAFT**



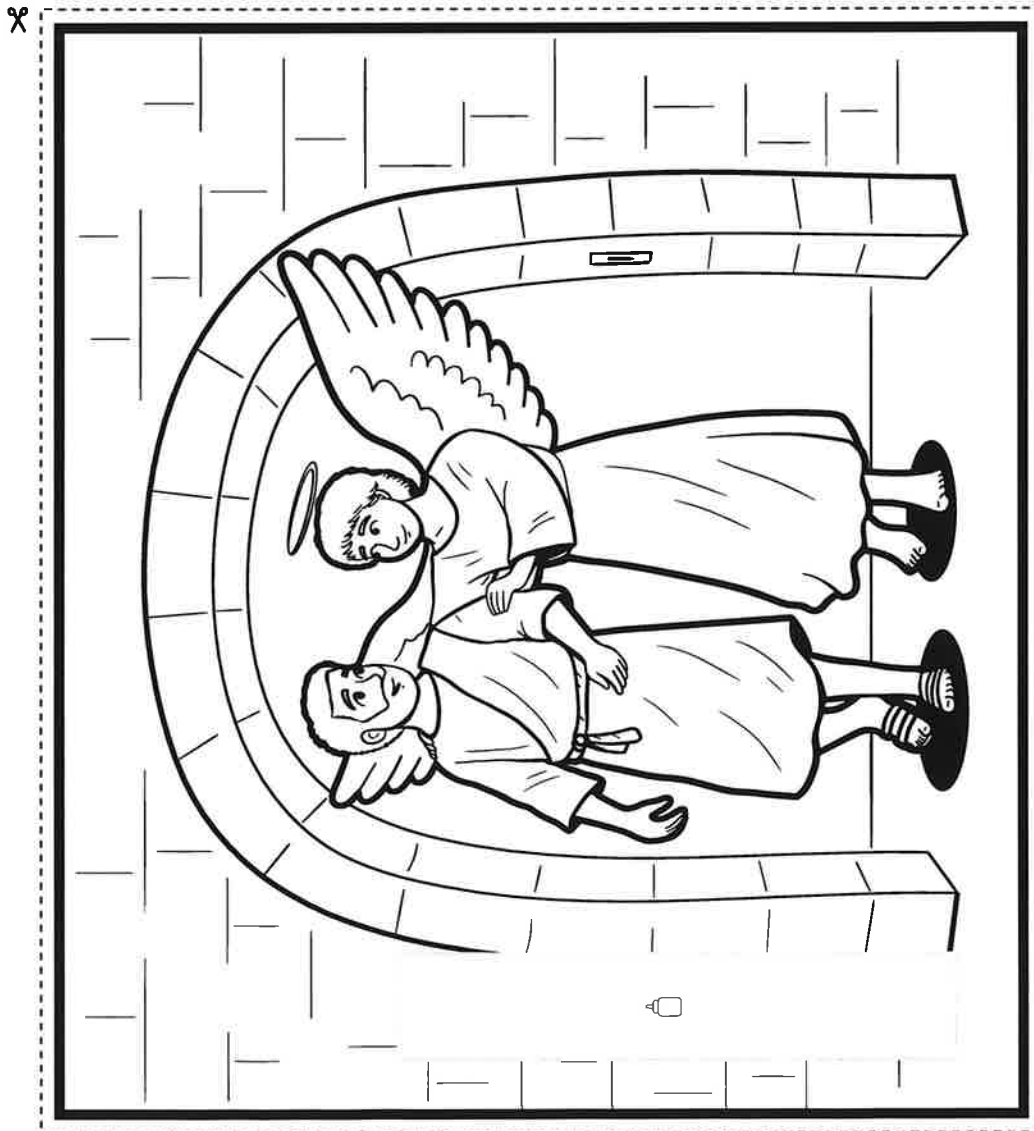
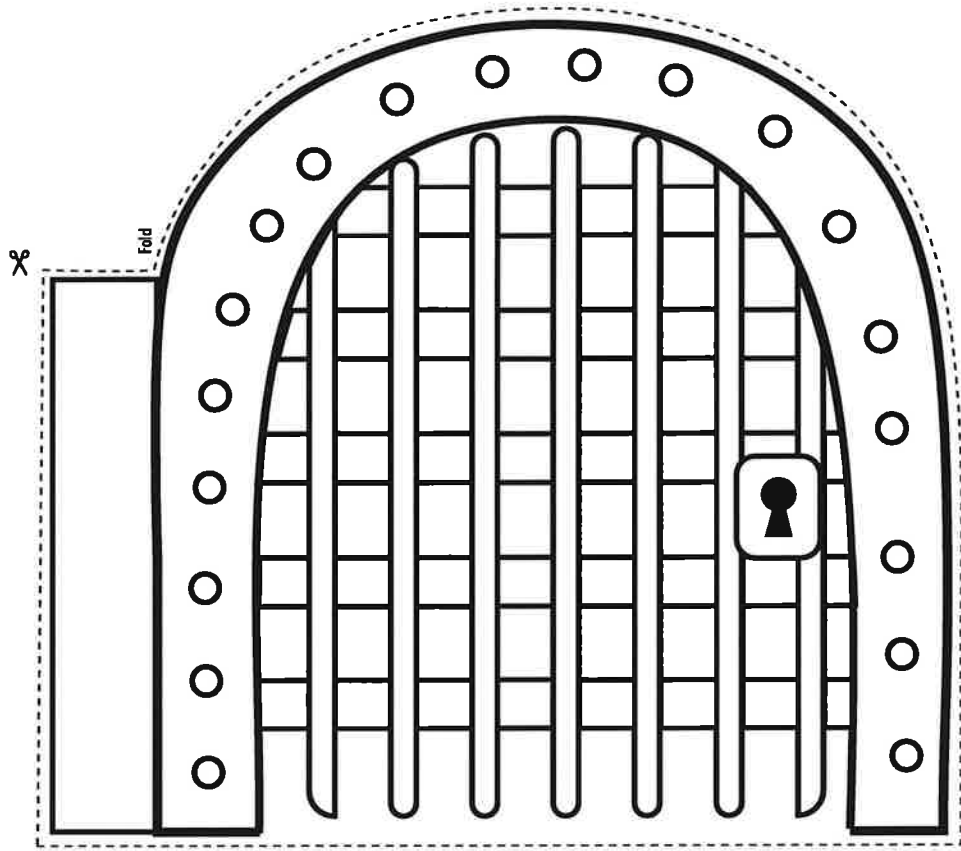
- Technically this is Jesus walking on water, but the kids can be easily persuaded away from that thought, haha.

**Send Home Page:** See attached











**May 10th's lesson was on  
Peter's Ministry**

**Memory Verse:**

**Casting all your cares on him, because he  
cares about you. -- 1 Peter 5:7 (CSB)**

**\*Kids that recite the memory verse  
to the teacher next week earn a prize ☺**

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**Link to New Testament  
Books Song**

**Once kids know the New  
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Acts 12:7-19

## An Angel Frees Peter

# An Angel Frees Peter

Acts 12:1–19

King Herod put Peter in prison. He planned to kill Peter because some angry men did not want Peter to keep preaching about Jesus. In his prison cell, Peter slept chained to two guards. More guards stood at the entrance. They didn't want Peter to escape!

Suddenly one night, an angel appeared in Peter's prison cell. The angel said, "Quick, get up!" The chains fell right off Peter's wrists. Then the angel told Peter to get dressed and follow him. They walked out of the prison, right past the guards. The gate to the city even opened by itself to let them in! Then the angel disappeared!

Peter quickly went to a house where some other believers in Jesus were praying for him. Peter knocked on the door. The servant girl who came to the door was so surprised that she forgot to open the door and let him in! When Peter finally was let into the house, he explained to everyone what had happened. They all praised God together for answering their prayers and rescuing Peter.