

Peter Denies the Lord

(Based on Mark 14:43-52, Matthew 26:47-56,
Luke 22:47-53, John 18:2-12)

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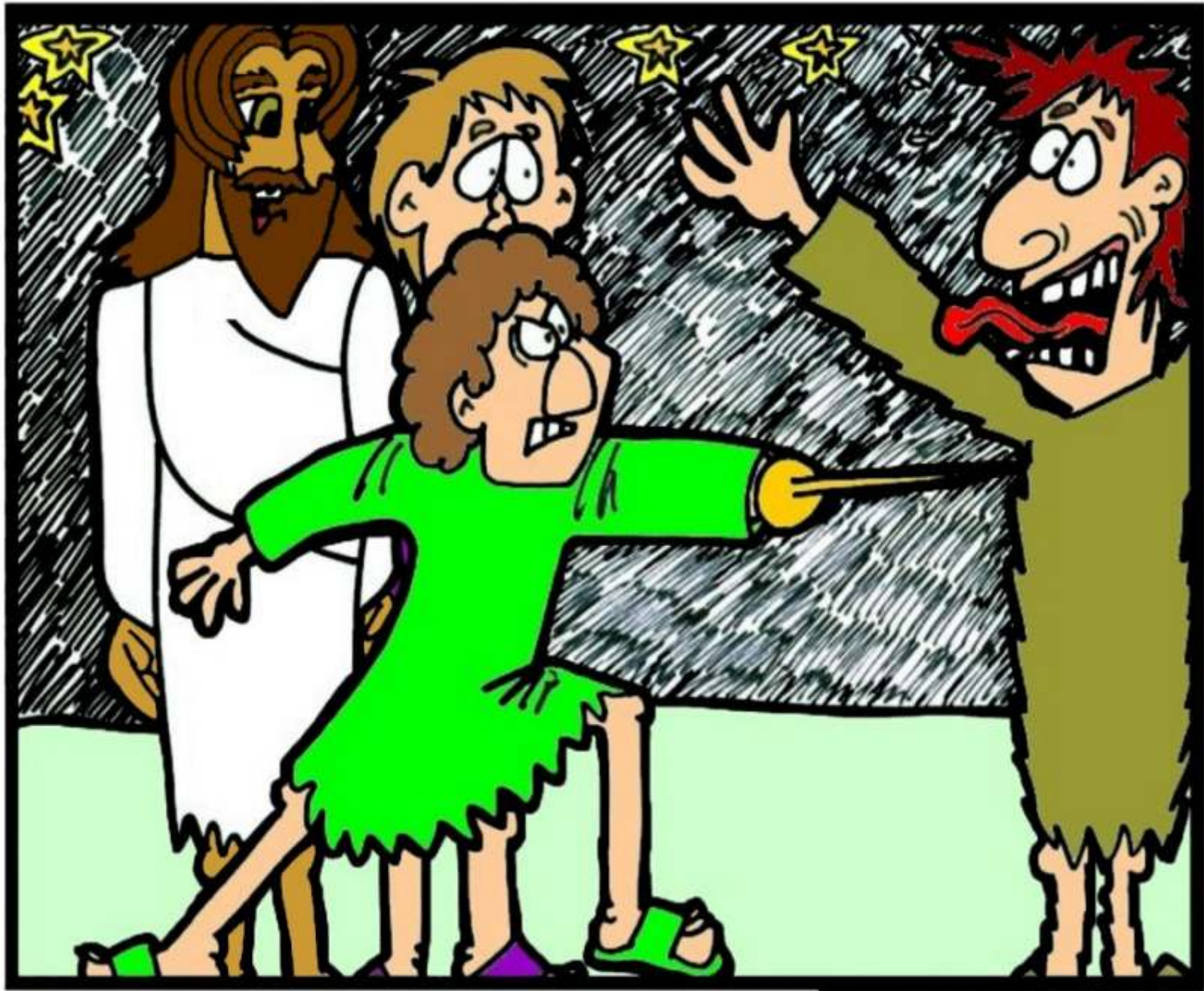
Judas was with the soldiers. He kissed Jesus as a signal, so that the soldiers would know whom to arrest. “Are you turning against me with a kiss?” asked Jesus.



“Who are you looking for?” asked Jesus. “Jesus of Nazareth,” answered the soldiers. “I am,” answered Jesus.



When the soldiers heard these words they all fell backwards to the ground.



“If you are looking for me, then let my followers go,” said Jesus. Peter took a sword and bravely attacked a man named Malchus. He was the servant of the boss priest. Peter cut off Malchus' right ear.



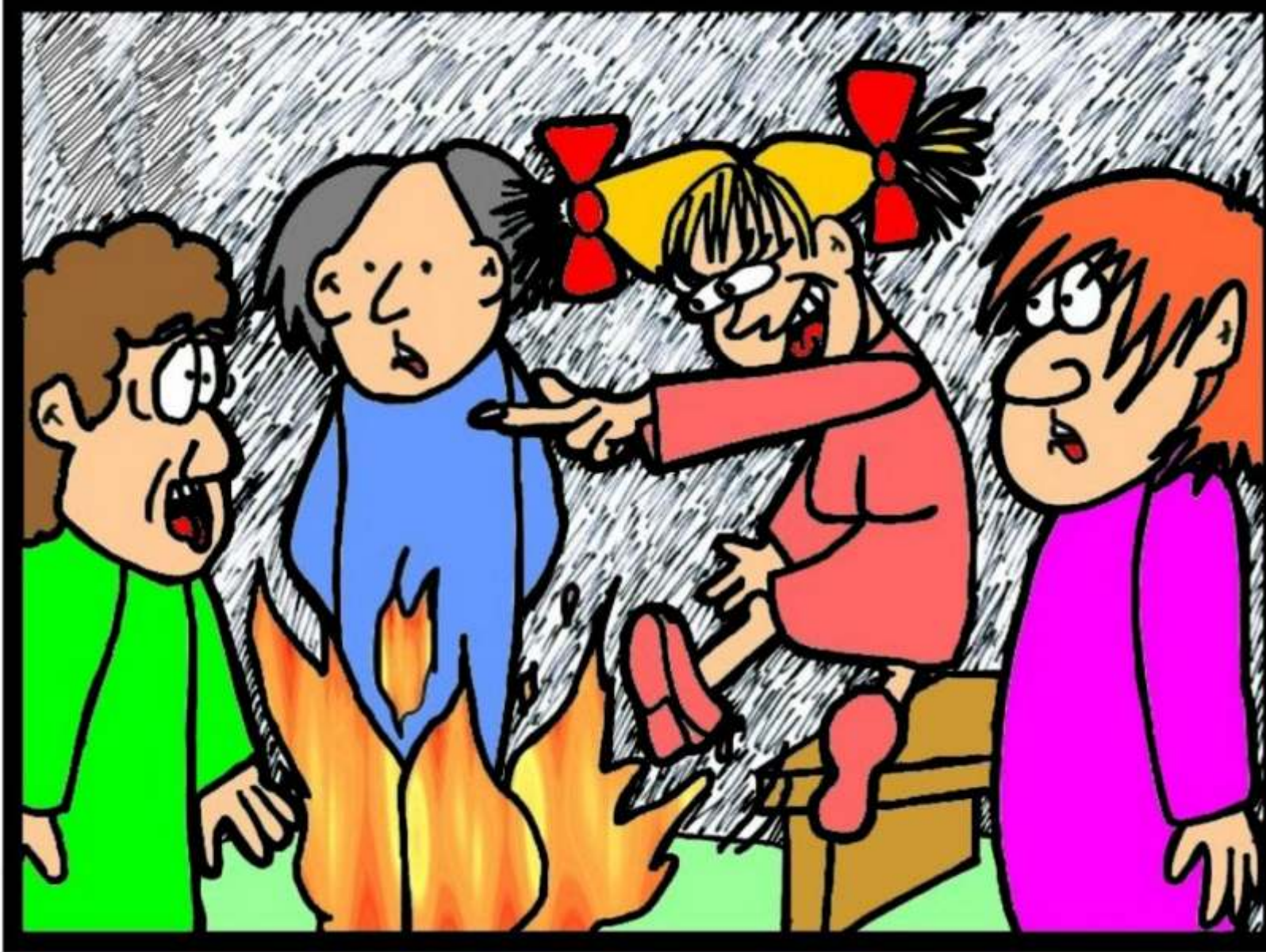
"My ear! My ear! You cut off my ear!" cried Malchus. "Enough!" said Jesus. "Let even this happen." Jesus took Malchus' ear and healed it back onto his head.



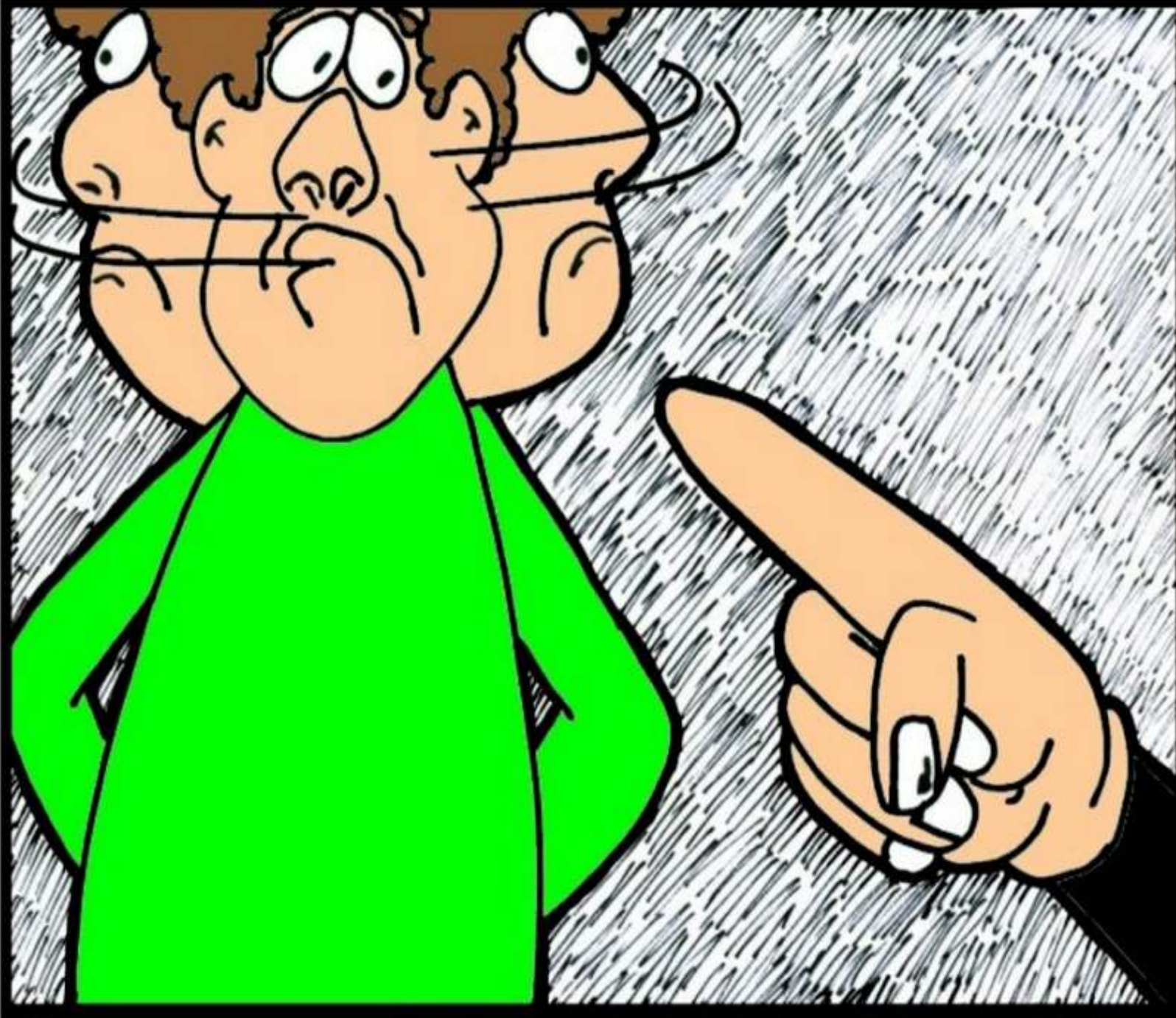
It was at this time that all the disciples ran away. The soldiers took Jesus to the boss priest's house. Peter followed at a distance and waited outside to see what would happen.



"Burrrrrr! It sure is cold out here," shivered Peter. He spotted a fire in the courtyard and decided to go and join the people around it.



Nobody paid any attention to Peter except one young servant girl. She sat staring at him. "You!" she gasped at last. "Everyone! This man was also with Jesus!" "What? Who me? I don't even know the guy!" answered Peter.



"You are also one of Jesus disciples!" blurted out a man suddenly. "Man, I am not!" answered Peter.



One hour later a relative of Malchus came and said, "This man was also with Jesus! Look he has a Galilean accent when he talks! I saw him in the garden." Peter began to call curses on himself and swear. "I do not know the man!"



"Cockle-doodle-doo! Cockle-doodle-doo," cried the rooster. Jesus looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered Jesus words. "The rooster will not crow this day before three times you tell people that you don't even know me."



"Ahhhhhhhhhh!!!!!" sobbed Peter as he ran out from the courtyard into the night. He wept and wept. He felt so rotten that he had told those people he didn't even know Jesus.



Lord, help me to be ready for any situation. Give me strength to be bold for you.