



# ***Bible Stories Alive for All the World***

*Originally written and told by Kitty Anna Griffiths  
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## **“As Much as They Could Understand”**

**W**e now have some 200 Bible stories translated and voiced in Mandarin, Swahili, Spanish, and Arabic. The Mandarin stories have begun to be distributed on USBs in mainland China and Hong Kong. The Swahili stories are on radio in Kenya, and we praise God for the response. Seven hundred children in a refugee camp listen eagerly to the Bible stories every Saturday morning, some with their family. In South America TWR has a network of Spanish radio stations broadcasting the stories in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, and Venezuela. This is a good beginning. Many of the stories are now translated and voiced in Spanish, ready for the time when God opens further doors for the spreading of the stories across South America. The same is true for the spreading of the stories in Arabic. Please pray for these open doors. The important thing is that many of the stories are ready – translated and voiced – for future expansion.

We are now completing the stories of the trial and death of the Lord Jesus. These stories will help children and young people. We will follow the example of the Lord Jesus. He taught people in simple, everyday talk. And He taught them “as much as they could understand” (Mark 4:33 NIV).

Here is an example of what we are doing. We need your prayers and support.

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## **Jesus Gives Peter a New Start**

**J**esus had been taken as a prisoner to the palace of Caiaphas, the high priest. Peter had followed Jesus secretly, and had gone into the courtyard of Caiaphas’ palace. It was a cold night, and Peter sat with the guards and warmed himself by the fire.

Caiaphas and the Jewish leaders wanted to find some wrong thing Jesus had done so they could put Him to death. But they found nothing. Caiaphas then said to Jesus, “Tell us the truth. Are You the Son of God?”

“Yes, I am,” Jesus answered.

When High Priest Caiaphas heard Jesus say that He was the Son of God, he was so angry that he tore his robe. He told the other Jewish leaders, “You have heard the wicked thing that this man has just said. What do you think?”

The Jewish leaders said, “He is guilty, and He should be put to death.”

Peter was still down in the courtyard warming himself by the fire. When he heard the news that Jesus had been condemned to death, he was frightened. If

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the Jewish rulers had condemned Jesus to death, they might do the same to Peter if they found out he was a follower of Jesus.

A servant girl saw Peter in the dim light of the courtyard. She came close up to him and looked at his face in the light of the fire. Then she said, "You were with this man Jesus from Nazareth!"

"No, I wasn't!" Peter said. "I don't know what you are talking about."

Peter went out to the gateway. Another servant girl saw him. She said to those standing around, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."

Again Peter said, "No, I don't even know the man!"

After a while, some people who were standing around said to Peter, "You are certainly one of them. You are from Galilee, where Jesus is from. We can tell by your accent."

Peter began to curse and swear. "I tell you, I don't know the man!"

Then a rooster crowed, and Peter remembered what Jesus had told him. "Tonight, before the rooster crows, you will say three times that you don't know me."

Peter went outside and wept bitterly. Peter loved Jesus, but he didn't listen to Him. Jesus had warned him that Satan was going to shake him with great force to make him lose his faith. But Peter was a proud man. He thought his faith was so strong that nobody could shake it. He told Jesus that "I am ready to go to jail with You and even to die with You." But Jesus had still warned Peter: "Before this night is over, you will say three times that you don't know me."

Now the words of Jesus had come true. Peter had said three times that night that he didn't belong to Jesus.

It looked as if Peter didn't really care about Jesus. But Peter did care.

When the soldiers and the guards came to capture Jesus, Peter drew his sword to protect Jesus. And when they captured Jesus, Peter followed them to Caiphias' palace to find out what would happen to his dear Master. No, Peter didn't really lose his faith in Jesus. But, for a short time, Peter told lies. He cared only about his own safety. But now he was sorry and brokenhearted. He thought that Jesus would never take him back as His follower.

Yet Jesus loved Peter. After Jesus had warned him that Satan wanted to make him lose his faith, Jesus comforted him. "I have prayed for you, so that you will not lose your faith. When you come back to me, help your brothers to be stronger."

So Jesus was going to give Peter a new start. Peter was again going to be a faithful follower of Jesus, and a leader in the church of Jesus Christ. But first Peter had to come back to Jesus. He had to confess the wrong things he had done and give himself completely to Jesus. And Peter must never again trust in his own strength. He must always remember – and we must always remember – where true strength comes from. It does not come from us. It comes from trusting Jesus.

Years later, after Peter had become a great leader in the church of Jesus Christ, He wrote a letter to the many churches that he cared about, and he said to them:

God is against those who are proud,  
but he gives help to humble people.  
(1 Peter 5:5, Simple English Bible)

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