

## Picture Study, April 6-7, 2020

If you would like to learn more, click all the blue words.

We do not know much about Giotto. One thing we do know is that he traveled [all over Italy](#) because of his work. You may want to pick a city to explore on a virtual field trip. He traveled with his master to [Rome](#) and [Assisi](#). He lived in [Florence](#) several times and he worked in [Padua](#), [Rimini](#), [Naples](#), [Bologna](#), and [Milan](#). Every time he moved he brought his wife and children.

Today we will be studying another fresco painted by Giotto in the Scrovegni Chapel in Padua. The

chapel's theme is salvation, and this week churches all over the world are celebrating the event illustrated in [today's picture study](#). Do you know what Giotto is portraying? Read [these verses](#) if you do not.

You might need some background. Jewish people came to Jerusalem from Judah and Israel for Passover. The Law required a perfect sacrifice. Poor people did not have wagons to carry animals so they bought them from sellers at the Temple. Some merchants took advantage of the poor and made them pay much more than the animals were worth. They were acting like thieves which made Jesus angry.

After you have studied the painting, focus on the composition. We have seen in earlier paintings how Giotto grouped people. What do you notice in this one? Again, the disciples are grouped apart from others.

Giotto portrayed strong emotions. How are different people reacting in this scene? How does he use body language to express their feelings?

As you recall, Giotto was the bridge between the symbolic art of the Middle Ages to the more realistic paintings of the Renaissance. What do you notice in the background that makes this picture look more real?