

## Picture Study, April 20-21, 2020

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

In our last study, we learned about how Giotto traveled all over Italy. Since he painted frescos on the walls of churches, he could not stay in [Florence](#) and work at home. He brought his large workshop with him to the site—not only his tools and materials but apprentices studying under him. Not only did he mentor young talent, he inspired artists in the cities where he worked. In [Rimini](#), only one item remains of his artistry—a [crucifix](#), or a cross showing Jesus in his final hours. This work influenced the rise of local artists who adopted his

style and techniques. His travels spread his new ideas all over Italy.

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](#).

Before you study, think about the things we have noticed in Giotto's paintings. He groups people but they have different facial expressions and body language. He distinguishes saints or Christians by their halos. Jesus has a symbol on his halo to mark him as the son of God. He tries to have objects in the background to add depth.

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.

The name of this painting is *The Lamentation of Christ*. The main figures are Jesus and his mother Mary. Do you remember who was at the foot of the cross on Good Friday? Who might the woman at the foot of Jesus? How many different ways does Giotto express the sadness of this day? Now, close your eyes and try to narrate the whole painting.