

## Picture Study, March 30-31, 2020

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

We do not know much about Giotto. According to one story, the pope wanted to know who was the most skilled artist. He sent messengers to cities all over Italy, including Florence where Giotto lived with his wife and four children. He decided to draw a perfect circle which could only be done with compasses. To prove his skill, Giotto made the circle by hand while the messenger watched. The Pope and his courtiers looked at all the drawings and declared that Giotto was the most skilled of all artists.

Today we will be studying another fresco painted by Giotto in the Scrovegni Chapel in Padua, Italy. The chapel's theme is salvation, and this Sunday 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.

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? The disciples of Jesus are clustered around him. What do you think Giotto is trying to say by tight grouping? Keep in mind that leaders were planning to arrest Jesus.

The other group of people is reacting in many different ways. Why are so many people staring at Jesus? Why do you think people are climbing trees? What do you think it means to lay a cloak before Jesus? Do you notice what one child is holding? All of these actions say that Jesus is king.

Without peeking, do you remember any colors? Do you remember what is in the background? Do remember what is behind the people on the right side of the painting?

The more you practice picture study, the better you will be at remembering what you see.