



Read the following story together. Use the document which has the cartoon panels in it to draw figures which would tell the story. If you have the technology, scan in the results and post them on your family's web site or on Facebook or Myspace.

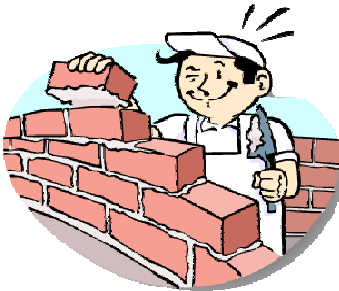
The Stone Rejected by the Builders

The builders were beginning work on a beautiful new building. The people of the town were excited to see the preparations and they would stop often to see the men work. Early in the process, a big truck delivered a large load of stones which were to be used for the front of the building. They had come from a stone quarry in a nearby county and were beautiful stones.



However ... one of the stones didn't seem to belong. It was a different color from all the rest. Instead of having the rough texture surface like the others, it had one very flat and smooth surface. It was also a different size and shape from anything else

in the pile. The workers pulled it out of the pile and set it aside as undesirable.



No matter where someone dragged it, it always seemed to be underfoot. People were tripping over it and had unkind things to say about it. Some of the construction crew were rough men and some used not so nice language. Even the construction foreman would shake his head about what to do with the unwanted stone. He supposed they would take it away somehow, some time.

As the building was nearing completion, the owners of the building reminded the builders that a dedication was going to take place and they would need a special and distinctive stone which would be used as the ceremonial corner stone. The corner stone would be engraved with names and dates for everyone to see.

You might be guessing what stone they decided to choose. That different colored stone with the flat surface was exactly the one they needed. What had been a stone that was rejected and people tripped over was now made the most important stone that everyone would see. It had the right shape, a distinctive color to set it off, and a nice smooth surface on which to engrave the words of dedication.

This story reminds me of Jesus – He was like that stone. He was initially rejected by the religious leaders of that day. People were mad at Him, threatened Him. Then people realized He was the promised Messiah, the one needed to save the world from its sinful condition. They welcomed Him and gladly received Him into their lives.