

Peter



WEEK 4 John 21:13-19



Materials needed:

- Pieces of paper to write on - 1 per person
- Pens or pencils
- 1 big book
- Scotch tape
- Scissors

To start our activity, what we are going to do is to think about one bad thing that we did in the past that we can still remember and feel bad about doing. Let's have 2 minutes to recall this incident.

After two minutes, say: Time is up! Do you have something in mind? Great! Now here is a piece of paper and what we will do next is write down this "bad thing" we did before that is still bothering us today. Don't worry! We will not read whatever you have written out loud. If you want to share what you have written, that is okay also.

As soon as you are done writing, fold your paper in half to conceal what you have written. On one side of your folded paper, write the word SIN in big letters. With the use of the scotch tape, stick the folded piece of paper on the cover of the big book. Next, stick out your hands together with the side of the palms up and bring them close to the left side of your chest where your heart is located. We will now put the book, which "holds" your sin on your hands. While in that position, let us see if you can do what I ask you to do without dropping the book.

Can you scratch your back?
Can you write on a piece of paper?
Can you give me a high five?

What do you think you can do so that you can accomplish the three things you were asked to do? Simple! All you have to do is to drop the book!

What does this activity have to do with our story? Let's find out!



Read the Word

John 21:13-19

13 Then Jesus served them the bread and the fish. 14 This was the third time Jesus had appeared to his disciples since he had been raised from the dead.

15 After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," Peter replied, "you know I love you."

"Then feed my lambs," Jesus told him.

16 Jesus repeated the question: "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

"Yes, Lord," Peter said, "you know I love you."

"Then take care of my sheep," Jesus said.

17 A third time he asked him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Then feed my sheep."

18 "I tell you the truth, when you were young, you were able to do as you liked; you dressed yourself and went wherever you wanted to go. But when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and others will dress you and take you where you don't want to go." 19 Jesus said this to let him know by what kind of death he would glorify God. Then Jesus told him, "Follow me."

In one incident before Jesus' death, Peter did something that he could not get over with even as time went by: he denied being a follower of Jesus Christ. He did not only do this one time, but in fact three times! And because of this, his act of denying Jesus made him feel an emotion called "guilt."

The Learner's Dictionary defines "Guilt" as "a bad feeling caused by knowing or thinking that you have done something bad or wrong."

From the time that Jesus died until the very moment that He resurrected and showed Himself to the disciples, Peter was feeling guilty about what he did. This guilt made him feel less worthy of being called a follower of Jesus and it also made him doubt his ability to do great things for the Kingdom of God. But did you notice what happened in our story when Jesus faced Peter after his resurrection? Instead of being mad at Peter for what he did, Jesus served him and the other disciples with food. And Jesus did not only serve his disciples; Jesus also restored Peter and even gave him the commission to take care of the flock or the other believers. Jesus did not even choose to remember Peter's sins at all!



Parent to Kid/s:
2-6 years old

- Have you accepted Jesus Christ in your life?
- What do you think Jesus did (or will do) to your past sins when He is in your life?

7-12 years old

- What do you think is the importance of Jesus' resurrection?
- After hearing our story, how do you feel about your past sins?

Kid/s to Parent:

- What are some of the things you believed you can't do when you felt guilty about your past sins?
- What do you do during times when you are reminded of your past sins and feel guilty about them?

Our activity earlier gave us an overview of what being guilty about our past sins can do to us: it hinders us from doing the things God wants us to do and also binds us from receiving and enjoying the life that God has for us. It is important to remember that there is no need to feel guilty about past sins because Jesus Christ has paid for those when He died on the cross and his resurrection back to life makes everyone who believes in Him a brand new person. Jesus has overcome our sins so we can live a guilt-free life that honors Him!



Dear God, we are grateful that You have sent Jesus Christ to overcome our sins. May we always remember that He is alive in us and, therefore, we should no longer feel guilty for the sins that we have done in the past. Holy Spirit, help us to always live a life that honors God. In Jesus' name. Amen.



Do you know that guilt can be a combination of the different emotions, such as anxiety, shame, embarrassment, and humiliation? You may have encountered these mixed emotions at one point of your life and they can certainly be overwhelming! Living with guilt can have devastating effects on our mental health. It can affect the brain's function seriously, which leads to negative effects on a person's self-esteem and self-worth.

Whenever you feel guilt welling up inside you and you feel worthless, remember that you can always reach out to the people that you trust (even to your Pastor or teachers in Kids Church!) for help. Do not let guilt define your worth. Always bear in mind that you are precious in the eyes of God and that your life is worthy of redemption!