

>>> COMMUNITY KIDS <<<

GOD TAKES SIN SERIOUSLY

Ephesians 2



FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- **Mornings:** Ask God to help you seek forgiveness when you disobey or hurt others. Which of your thoughts or actions need forgiveness? How will you ask that person to forgive you? In what way do you hope they will respond?
- **Evenings:** Praise Jesus for His work on the cross to pay for our sins and to provide forgiveness to all who believe in Him! Why was Jesus' death necessary to provide forgiveness of sins? What must you do to receive this forgiveness?

>>> MAIN IDEAS:

CHRIST CONNECTION

THIS IS THE BIG IDEA OF HOW THIS WEEK'S BIBLE STORY POINTS TO JESUS:

GOD TAKES SIN SERIOUSLY. PEOPLE DESERVE TO DIE FOR THEIR SINS, BUT GOD LOVES US AND SENT HIS SON, JESUS, TO DEFEAT DEATH BY DYING ON THE CROSS FOR OUR SINS AND RISING FROM THE DEAD. EVERYONE WHO TRUSTS IN JESUS HAS ETERNAL LIFE.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is the fair payment for sin?

The fair payment for sin is death.

Dear Families,

In May 2021, the graduating class of Wilberforce University listened as the president of the university declared that all their student debts had been canceled. Students shouted, cheered, and cried as he said, “Your accounts have been cleared ... you don’t owe anything!” More than \$375,000 was owed, and it was all paid for them.

This announcement was good news, but the Bible has declared even greater news. Our sin has made each of us guilty and deserving of punishment. The debt of sin means that we face eternal separation from God. Someone had to be punished for the sins we committed. It should be us, but God—the One who loves us with such amazing love—sent Jesus to the cross to pay the price for our sins! His sacrifice was enough to cancel all our debts.

As Jesus gave his life on the cross, He looked toward heaven and said, “It is finished.” He was declaring to anyone who believes in Him that your accounts have been cleared and you don’t owe anything! When we confess our faith in Him, the Bible declares us forgiven, free, and saved.

God takes sin seriously. People deserve to die for their sins, but God loves us and sent His Son, Jesus, to defeat death by dying on the cross for our sins and rising from the dead. Everyone who trusts in Jesus has eternal life.

Pray: Jesus, thank You for giving Your life to cancel the debt of sin. Your sacrifice has paid the price so that we can be forgiven and free. Give us wisdom to know You and believe in You as Lord.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES<<<

For Fun: Play a game with your kids where you hold your hands behind your back and let them take turns slipping their arms under yours to act as your hands. Let them “help” you make a sandwich and eat it. Talk about how Jesus’ work accomplished what we could never do for ourselves. Praise Him for being the perfect sacrifice who offers forgiveness of sin.

To Serve: This week be the hands for someone you know who could use some help, or for someone you see as you are out and about. Hold the door open at the store or make a meal or cookies and deliver them to a neighbor. Read 1 John 3:16-18 and discuss how we can show Jesus’ love by helping and serving others. Discuss some ways you can share the gospel while helping others.



UNIT MEMORY VERSE:

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23