

Charla on Sin

(Activity): Poking a hole into envelopes with nails.

Questions: Poke a whole in your envelope if:

1. Have you ever done something that you're not supposed to do?
2. Have you ever disrespected someone that can take care of you?
3. Have you ever said, "Oh my God?"
4. Have you ever wish death upon someone?
5. Have you ever lied to anyone?
6. Have you ever stolen money from your parents?
7. Have you ever cheated on a test?
8. Have you ever talked about someone in a bad way?
9. Have you ever missed mass to sleep?
10. Have you ever been jealous of someone?
11. Have you ever doubted God?
12. Have you drunk alcohol or done drugs?
13. Have you ever been in a fight?
14. Have you ever cheated on a girlfriend or boyfriend?
15. Have you ever taken advantage of someone?

(Open the envelopes & look inside.)

This is what happens to every thing that you love when you sin.

Many people define sin as disobeying the 10 commandments, which is true. However, we're not always thinking about the 10 commandments in our daily lives. Do you think of them when you wake up? Or when you say "oh my God?"

So I want to ask you guys, **What is Sin?** (3 volunteers)

The Google definition says that sin is an immoral act considered to be a transgression against divine law.

The Bible goes deeper into the definition of sin saying that when you sin you are “missing the mark.”

What do you guys think that it means to “miss the mark?” (3 volunteers).

In my perspective, it basically means falling short from what God has destined for you.

What do you think it is that God has destined for you? (3 volunteers).

He honestly just wants the best for you.

I want you guys to close your eyes and think about this:

Imagine yourself at the beginning of a marathon and the finish line is what God has destined for you. But midway there, you get tired and don't want to finish *because* of the fact that you're so tired, and you're satisfied with losing, so you forfeit. Okay now open your eyes. By only getting half way, you're giving up, you're separating yourself from the will of God.

At this moment I want you guys to turn around and discuss the different ways that teenagers may “miss the mark?” or how you guys may fall short in today's society? (3-4 minutes)

So what are some things that you guys said? (5 volunteers).
Everything you guys just talked about are mostly considered sins.

What are some commandments you guys may know from the top of your head? (wait for disrespecting parents, fornication, and abuse of drugs).

Disrespecting your parents

In Colossians chapter 3, verse 20 it says "children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord." Jesus wishes everyone to respect and honor their parents right after him because you owe life to them. The fourth commandment is addressed expressly to children in their relationship to their father and mother, because this relationship is the most universal. However, the respect also goes beyond just your parents. You should express honor, affection, and gratitude toward your elders, peers, to teachers, etc. Some kids are just extremely stubborn and don't realize that their parents gave them the gift of life. Your parents' love and their hard work, have brought you into the world and enabled you to grow in stature, wisdom, and grace. You guys have to remember that nothing can be compared to the gift that they have given you besides the materialistic things you have received throughout your life.

Fornication

Who here knows what fornication means?

In other words fornication means sex before marriage.

We were made to procreate. We were not created to just lust people. The human body should be considered a temple and sacred such as any other valuable thing you might own. The same way that you don't like your special and valuable things being thrown around, is the same way God wants you to keep your body and soul, pure. Pure in respect to yourself, in your well-being, in the way you treat your body, and in the way you treat

the bodies of others. This goes for both men and woman. God said sex before marriage is a sin because we have sex to procreate new infants, new babies, new life. Not because you want to feel satisfied with yourself. That is why adultery is a sin. These things become harder to understand as you grow older and develop because you are given freedom. However, you need to be aware that what you do on this ground will have an effect when you get to the gates of the lord.

(Activity):

1. Hand out piece of paper
2. Have the students roll the paper into a ball
3. One volunteer come up and pretend he committed a crime.(murder)
4. In Jesus' day, when people were caught committing certain crimes, the punishment may have been to get "stoned to death" by the people living in the village. So should we stone this criminal?
5. Throw the balls at him/her and ask: Was it fun? Did you feel good about it?
6. Give another piece of paper but don't roll it up YET! Write any sin that you might have ever committed recently. (i.e lied, argued with your parents, or disobedient). Then roll the paper up and hold on to it.
7. Now I'm going to read some verses out of the bible.

John 8:3-11

3 The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group **4** and said to Jesus,

“Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. **5** In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?”

6 They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.

7 When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.”

8 Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

9 At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. **10** Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”

11 “No one, sir,” she said.

“Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”

8. One volunteer pretend they committed adultery. Should we stone this criminal? Remember in the story Jesus said “If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone.” Who is without sin here? Exactly, we all have sinned. Before we judge someone else for doing wrong, we need to look at our own lives and ask ourselves if we are any better.

Abuse of the 6th Commandment

The 6th Commandment states “thou shall not kill.”

How many of you guys, by a show of hands, have ever killed any one or anything?

This commandment does not just mean you're sinning if you kill someone. In other words, you can break the 6th commandment by hurting yourself and the others around you. You can break this commandment verbally, physically, and emotionally. By this I mean, when you decide to drink alcohol before you're of age, just because you think its cool. You're hurting yourself when you decide to abuse alcohol just because you want to get the feeling of being drunk. This also goes for drugs. In todays society, kids are influenced extremely easy into smoking, and doing all other types of drugs. For example, it is very easy for you guys to smoke a cigarette or even some marijuana, but when you do this, you're hurting yourself, not anyone else BUT YOURSELF! When you decide to hate someone or show hatred towards someone, you are also breaking this commandment. The Bible shows that hate is the attitude of murder. The apostle John wrote: "Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him" (1 John 3:15). Jesus did not put us on this earth to hate our enemies, but to love, bless, do good, and pray for them. So, next time you think of doing one of these things, remember, how would Jesus feel?

Jesus Christ brought you on to this planet in order to save you from your sins. Therefore, when you guys lie, disrespect your parents, say "oh my

God" towards a bad situation, etc. you guys are moving further from what he has destined for you. From the gates of heaven, from the beautiful world he really wants you to live.