

Nails

The Pain and Potential of Sin

PREP

Supplies:

- One large nail

Mark a Bible to Romans 4:25.

DEMONSTRATION

Hold up the nail and have your class list all the good things nails can do and write them on a white board. Then ask your class all the bad things nails can do and write them down, as well.

OBJECT LESSON

Say, "Nails can be horrible objects. If your parents ever ran over a nail with their car it's a huge pain because they had to get a new tire. And if you've ever accidentally stepped on a nail it's terribly painful.

Can you imagine that Jesus had giant nails in his hands and feet to hold his body to a wooden cross?! Getting a shot with a tiny needle hurts, and that's nothing compared to a nail!

Our sin can be represented by those nails that held Jesus to the cross. Remember, sin is all the things that we do wrong, and these sins are the very reason that Jesus had to die. Through His dying and rising again we can be forgiven for all our sins.

Our sin is what caused Jesus that pain and what put him on the cross in the first place. He took the nails in our place. Because of our sins we all deserve to die, but Jesus died so that we don't have to ever die a spiritual death. Our bodies will die one day, but if we have a relationship with Jesus, our spirit will go to heaven and live with Him forever.

Romans 4:25 says, 'He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.'

But you know the good thing about nails? They can be used in a valuable way when they are in the right hands.

A carpenter with a hammer can make beautiful furniture with the help of nails. Nails are very important when building a home.

In the same way, if our sins are like nails that have caused Jesus so much pain, they can also be used by Jesus, the perfect carpenter, to do great things once we've stopped doing them and asked for forgiveness.

When we ask forgiveness and turn away from our sins, God can use our past mistakes to teach us and make us stronger and to allow us to help others. So as bad as nails are, God can use them for something beautiful in the end.

WRAP UP

Say, “Our sins nailed Jesus to the cross. But the sins we’ve turned away from can be used by God in great ways.”