

KIDS

Just Desserts

Best Use

A family time activity.

What is it about?

Use this lesson to help kids learn about sin, the punishment we deserve, and God's grace.

Advance Preparation

Make sure you have the following on hand.

- Dessert Reward
- Bible

What you do...

Follow these steps for a great experience...

1. Before this session, think of a simple task family members can do together that will take five or ten minutes. For example, raking the yard; or washing, drying and putting away the dishes; or washing the car. Be sure to gather any supplies you'll need for this activity beforehand. you'll also need Bibles and a dessert reward (such as candy bars or ice cream).

2. Share: There's a small job that needs to be done, and I've set aside a reward for everyone who helps in doing the job.
3. Activity: Explain the job and the reward, and set about doing this together. If a family member chooses not to help, remind this person that they're also choosing not to have the reward. Use their decision in the later discussion, pointing out the consequences of our decisions, whether negative or positive. After the work is done, get out the dessert and eat it together.
4. Discuss these questions as you eat:
 - Do you think the dessert was a fair reward or payment for the job we did?
 - What other types of rewards or payments do different family members get for their work? (This could include payment at work, grades on report cards. special honors or awards in sports or clubs, and so on.)
 - What kind of payment do we get when we do something nice for someone? (this may be only a good feeling inside or the secret joy of helping another.)
5. Share: Payment or rewards we get for our work are called wages. It's what we earn. We often earn some kind of payment when we do good things. On the other hand, we might also get "payments" when we do bad things.
6. -What kinds of wages does a robber or murder get after being caught? (They go to jail or are put to death.)
7. Share: Just like we can earn good things by good actions, we can earn bad things by bad actions. The Bible makes this clear in Roman 6:23a.
8. Read Romans 6:23a together. Question: What does this verse mean? (The price we pay for sin is death...) What do we earn for our sins? (We die.)
9. Share: The Bible says we deserve to be punished for our sins. Fortunately, God made a way for us to not be punished. Jesus took the punishment we deserve.
10. Age Adjustments: Adjusts the work activity according to the ages of your children. Older children may undertake a more difficult task, while simply sweeping the walk is a tough job for younger ones. If ages in your family vary, divide the tasks so each child has a part. For example, YOUNGER CHILDREN may gather larger twigs while parents and older children rake leaves in the yard.