

Devotion

The Great Mestival

Cleaning up the Mess

BOTTOM LINE: Jesus can forgive our sins and help us start anew.

OBJECTIVE: Kids will learn how Jesus can help us clean up even the biggest messes.

Over the course of our lives, we will make many mistakes...these mistakes are called sin.

Sin can be things like lying, taking things that don't belong to us or talking badly about others behind their backs.

All of these things are considered sin...and sins separate us from God.

PRIDE is also a sin.

Pride is thinking that we are better than everyone else.

When we think that our opinions, our feelings, our accomplishments, our thoughts, and our beliefs...are better than everyone else's.

In the Bible, there were many prideful people...just like there are in our world today.

One of the greatest examples of PRIDE...is Satan...the devil.

Satan thought that he was better than God. He thought that his ideas, his ways, his thoughts were better than God's.

In fact Satan thought that he should be God!

And we all know how that worked out don't we? He was thrown from heaven.

Don't allow pride take root in your life. Don't be a prideful person!

And just as importantly....do not allow other prideful people to influence you with their... ideas, thoughts, beliefs and opinions...if they go against what the Bible teaches.

Remember, there were fallen angels that were thrown out of heaven too...right along with Satan.

These were angels who fell for Satan's lies...they were prideful just like Satan.

What a mess they made of their lives!

But guess what?

We have all made messes of our lives too...lying, being unkind, disobeying, taking things that do not belong to us.

All sins...each one...separating us from God!

But there is hope...and that hope is Jesus!

Jesus died on the cross...and when He did, He paid the price for our sins. Not just my sins. Not just your sins, not just your parent's sins...but everyone's sins.

He died for our past sins....He died for the sins we will commit today...and He died for the sins that we will commit in the FUTURE.

WHY would He die for the sins that we commit in the future?

Because God...is all powerful!

Because God... is all knowing!

Because God knew... that each of us...as humans...would sin again!

And God did not want SIN to separate us!

You see, God know that we will mess up.

Some of us will have bad days...we will make bad choices...but we kind of bounce back because we know that God us with us...and that God will help us through.

But some of us may mess up so badly that we will hit rock bottom.

We may feel that there is no one or nothing that can save us.

We may feel that God is far, far away and that He doesn't care about us.

WE may feel that God could never forgive us for what we have done.

But that's not true.

When you asked Jesus to come into your heart and to forgive you or YOUR SINS...He already KNEW what your sins were...He already knew what choices you would make...and He already knew where your life would lead you...AND HE ALREADY FORGAVE YOU!

When you are facing some of your darkest days...don't give up...because God is right there with you.

He may not change the situation that you are in...but He will USE the situation to make you stronger...or to make someone else stronger through you!

Don't give up...Don't give in...Don't give out!

Once you have asked Jesus into your heart...He is ALWAYS with you...No matter how MESSY your life may be!