

ICEBREAKER

What's the highest thing you've ever ollied over, or the biggest thing you've ever ollied down?

GROUP QUESTION

Can anyone describe what sin is? (Going against the law of God)

Sin is a very touchy subject because everybody has committed sin yet everyone is scared to address it and talk about it. Sin essentially is the act of disobeying God, and you would be crazy to think that you have never sinned at some point in your life. God says anyone that has ever done something so simple as telling a lie has committed sin. God's law is so extensive that it is actually impossible to live a sinless life compared to His standards. Obviously we all have done wrong and committed some type of sin over the course of our lives, but what makes our sin so important is the fact that it literally separates us from God.

Have you ever done anything wrong to a friend or family member that messed up your relationship with them? Has anyone ever done something like that to you?

The typical response when we realize that our actions have separated us from a loving God is to stop doing wrong altogether. We have this idea that if we could just be perfect, and if we could just stop sinning, that God would forgive us and we could earn our right standing with Him. The problem is that we can never stop sinning on our own, and even if we could it would be impossible to earn the forgiveness of a Holy God.

Whether it be studying for a test, trying a skateboard trick, has there ever been an instance where you have tried as hard as you could for something but still failed?

Luckily for us God provided a way for us to be cleansed of our sin, His perfect son Jesus. Jesus sacrificed His perfect life so that whoever believes in Him can be forgiven of their sins and have eternity in Heaven. Jesus took on our sins when He died; He literally received the punishment for every sin we have committed and will commit, so that now we can live a forgiven life. Being a Christian does not mean that we are perfect and sinless, it's actually the opposite. It's realizing that we are all sinners and that we will never be perfect, but accepting the spotless love and forgiveness of our Heavenly Father. It's comforting to know that it all doesn't rely on us or what we can do for God; it's about receiving what God has already done for us.

Can anyone describe a story in the Bible when God forgave someone? (David – Bathsheba / Peter denying Jesus 3 times / Jonah and the Whale)

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus." Romans 3:23-24

"But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57

How can your faith in Jesus help you this week with a sin that you are dealing with?

- PRAYER -

God I thank you for all that you've done for me. Thank you for sending your son Jesus to die for my sins so that now nothing can separate me from you. I ask that you could forgive me for all the times in my life when I've failed you, and that you can help me to live a life that better pleases you. Thank you for loving me unconditionally, and help me to grow closer to you daily. In Jesus' name Amen!