

3. Plan with your co-workers the up-coming worship

Tell or act out the story of Adam and Eve and their fall, from Genesis chapter 3. Ask the first set of questions that are listed above under Part 1.

Explain what David said about his sin and ask the second set of questions listed under Part 1.

Explain briefly the truths from Romans 3:19–23, 1 John 5:16–19 and Hebrews 12:1-4 mentioned under Part 1, and ask the third set of questions listed under Part 1.

Let believers who recently found freedom from bad habits or demons give **testimonies**.

Let the **children** present the drama and questions that they have prepared.

Read or act out **Acts 19:11–20**. Then explain how the people confessed their sins and abandoned their bondage to magic. Thus, they were forgiven, overcame their shame, and were freed from their bondage to evil spirits.

To introduce the **Lord's Table**, read Genesis 3:6-10 and verse 21. Explain that Adam and Eve tried to cover their shame with fig leaves. But God clothed them with animal skins because our sins must be hidden from God's sight with the blood of an innocent victim. The animal sacrifices foretold Jesus the Lamb of God who took away all sins.

Form small **groups** of two and three. Let them confess any public sins and pray for each other's forgiveness and freedom.

Memorize together Isaiah 1:18.

Like Adam, We have All Sinned Our sin made us guilty, caused shame, and held us in bondage.

Those who teach children should read study #56 for children.

Prayer: “Lord Jesus, You died to deliver us from the consequences of our sin. Please, help us to face up to our sinfulness and to live by your victory over sin. Amen.”

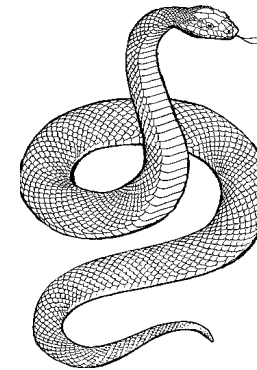
Choose activities that fit current needs and local customs.

1. Prepare yourself with prayer and the Word of God to help your congregation to deal with its sinfulness.

The Bible teaches that everybody is born with sin, all are sinners, and every one of us commits sins (1 John 1:8-10).

Find in **Genesis 3:1–9** where sin came from:

- What lie did the devil tell to our first ancestors? [*Verses 4 & 5*]
- What punishment did God announce against the devil? [*Verses 13–15*]
- What punishment did God announce against our ancestors? [*Verses 16–19*]



Find in Psalm 51:1–5 what King David said about his sin:

- What did he recognize to be his need? [Verses 1 & 2]
- What did he say about his sins? [Verse 3]
- Against whom did he commit sin? [Verse 4]
- When did he become a sinner? [Verse 5]

Find in **Hebrews 12:1–4** how dangerous our sin is:

- How apt are we believers to commit sins? [Verse 1]
- What did Jesus endure on the cross because of our sins? [Verse 2]
- What can happen to us because of other sinners? [Verse 3]
- Why do we sometimes yield to sin? [Verse 4]



Our sins bring three terrible results: guilt, shame and bondage:

- 1) **Guilt.** We are guilty before God.
- Like a criminal who is tried in a court of law and condemned by a judge, so we must give an account to God for our sins.

- Fortunately, Christ took our sins to the cross where he died in our place. Thus, God forgives all the sins of those who trust in Jesus.
- 2) **Shame.** We suffer shame before God.
- Like a person who has been caught in the act of doing something shameful, so we humans can suffer great shame before God when he will reveal all the sins of everyone at the Final Judgment.
 - But — thanks to God — Jesus Christ suffered public shame in our place, so that, when he returns, we will not be put to shame.
- 3) **Bondage.** We come into bondage to sinful practices.
- Like an alcoholic who cannot stop drinking, and whose family is destroyed by his drinking, so we all become addicted to sinful things like alcohol, drugs, magic, false gods, immoral activities, and illicit relationships.
 - But God be praised! When Jesus died on the cross for us, he destroyed the power of the evil one and provided freedom from our bondages.

2. Plan with your co-workers the coming week's activities

Discuss together your congregation's member's need to be forgiven and freed.

- Which members need to embrace God's forgiveness of the sins they have committed? Go visit them, help them to confess their sins, serve communion to them, and pray with them to know forgiveness.
- Which members still feel ashamed of their former way of life? Go visit them, explain how Jesus was put to shame for them, and pray for them to overcome their shame.
- Which members need to overcome addictions? Go visit them, help them to renounce their bad habits, assure them of your continued watch-care and pray for their freedom.

Help all of these members to memorize **1 John 2:28**.