



FAMILY FAITH TALK

Scripture Focus: John 19 & 20

As you enter Passion Week, we invite your family to slow down and set aside intentional time to remember what Jesus has done for us. Choose a quiet moment this week to read, talk, watch, and pray together, creating space for meaningful faith conversations at home. Even a few minutes together can help your family reflect on Jesus' love and the gift of a clean heart.



READ:

Imagine you have a white shirt that you really love. One day, you accidentally get permanent marker all over it. No matter how hard you scrub and wash, the stains won't come out. You might wish someone could somehow make it clean again—but you can't do it by yourself.

The Bible tells us that our hearts can be like that shirt. When we do wrong things, say hurtful words, or think selfish thoughts, those are called sin. Sin leaves "stains" on our hearts that we cannot erase on our own. That's why what happened in John 19 is so important.

John 19:17 tells us that Jesus carried a big wooden cross up a hill. It was heavy. He was tired and hurting. But He kept walking, because He knew He was going to do something amazing—He was going to take our "stains" on Himself. When He reached the hill, something very serious happened. "There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle." (John 19:18)

Jesus was placed on the cross. Nails held His hands and feet. It was painful. Jesus had the power to stop it. He could have walked away. But He didn't—it was the only way.

Jesus never sinned. His heart was completely clean—like a perfect white shirt. But on the cross, He chose to take our dirty, stained hearts so we could receive His clean one instead.

As Jesus was dying, He knew He had finished what God sent Him to do. "Jesus said, 'It is finished'. With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.'" (John 19:30b) Jesus meant that He finished the rescue. He paid for sin. He made a way for people to be close to God.

Remember the white shirt with the permanent marker on it? By ourselves, we can't clean it. No matter how hard we try, the stains stay. Our hearts are the same way. We cannot wash away our own sin. But Jesus can. When Jesus died on the cross, it was like He took our dirty, stained shirt and said, "I'll wear this instead. You can have My clean one."

Because of Jesus, our hearts can be made clean. **We are forgiven. We are loved. We belong to God.**



WATCH:

God's Story:
Jesus is Alive!



DECIDE:

The white shirt is now clean—but here's the choice: Do you reach out and take it for yourself? Salvation works the same way. Jesus has already done the work to clean your heart, but you have to accept His clean heart for yourself.

Choosing to take the "clean shirt" means:

- **Admitting** you have stains (sin) and need help.
- **Believing** that Jesus died for you and rose again.
- **Choosing** to follow Him as your best friend and King.

It's the most important decision you'll ever make because it changes your "forever." When you accept Jesus' clean heart, you belong to God's family starting right now!

ANSWER:

What does it mean to live like God's kid every day?

ADMIT.
BELIEVE.
CHOOSE.

COMMUNION:

Before He went to the cross, Jesus asked His friends to eat and drink to remember Him. Doing this together is a way of saying, "Thank You, Jesus, for what You did."

For those who have a new heart—whose "dirty shirt" has been cleaned by Jesus—this is also a way to celebrate and remember that God has made us new inside.

Give everyone a small piece of bread or a cracker.

"Jesus said, 'This is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'" (Luke 22:19) As you eat, think about how Jesus' physical body was hurt on the cross so that our hearts could be healed.

Give everyone a small cup of juice or water.

"This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." (Luke 22:20) The juice reminds us of the blood Jesus shed. Just like water washes dirt off your hands, Jesus' sacrifice washes the sin off our souls—and gives everyone who trusts Him a new, clean heart.

Let's pray together. Jesus, thank You for loving us enough to take our sins to the cross. Thank You for being alive today! Thank You for giving us clean hearts. Help us to trust You with our hearts and to share Your great love with our friends. Amen.



FAITH TALK:

This week, try having a faith talk with a friend. It can be simple—ask what they're thankful for, tell them God loves them, or ask if you can pray for them. Even sharing something you learned at church counts. Just be kind and brave!