Date: 1/20/2018

Title: Just One Hole

Theme: Just one sin earns us death; forgiveness in Christ gives us eternal life.

Object: Two balloons: A white one labeled “Jesus” and another one labeled “Us.” Pin labeled “Sin”

Text: Romans 6:23 (NKJV) 23For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Wow! This verse is amazing. It tells us something really important.

The first part of the verse tells us something that is just awful: “The wages of sin is death.”

But the second part tells us something that is fantastic: “The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Now what does it mean that the wages of sin is death?

Have you ever done a job that you got paid for?

Well the payment that you got was the wages for your work.

So when the Bible says “the wages of sin is death” it means that “what you get when you sin is death.”

So when we disobey God and break His commandments and do things that He calls sins, what do we get?

We get death, eternal death, we’d be dead forever and ever.

Now a lot of people think they’re not so bad.

They say, “Maybe I’ve sinned a couple of times, but compared to “so-and-so” or “what’s -his -name” I’m really pretty good.

But God doesn’t compare you to “so-and-so” or “what’s-his-name.”

If we sin only once, if we disobey God only one time, the Bible says we get eternal death instead of eternal life.

It only takes one sin to make you a sinner.

Check it out! I have a couple of balloons here in the bag. [I’m blowing up the white one first]

The first one has the name of Jesus on it. This is a perfect balloon: no holes because Jesus lived a perfect life. He never disobeyed the commandments of God.

The second one has your name on it and mine too. It’s called “Us.”

And this is how we look before sin brings us down.

Now here I have a pin that is labeled “Sin.”

And I’m going to put just one little pin hole of sin in our balloon. [Prick balloon]

Just one sin made you a sinner, unfit for the kingdom of God.

That’s bad news, really bad news, because we all have sinned, and we all look like this broken balloon to God.

That’s why we have to get to the second part of this verse: “The gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

The good news is that you can have eternal life instead of eternal death if you love and trust in Jesus as your Savior and Lord.

Here’s how it works: Jesus is able to forgive us because He died on the cross for our sins.

When we love and trust Jesus, and tell Him we’re sorry for our sins, and ask Him to forgive us, He will.

The Bible says, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Even though our sin has made us look like this [hold up broken balloon], when God forgives us, He makes us look like this [hold up perfect Jesus balloon].

So when God forgives us, He hides us behind the perfect sinlessness of Jesus.

And because of Jesus and what He has done for us, He gives us eternal life instead of eternal death.

Which balloon would you rather be? (Me too!)

Let’s ask Jesus to be our Savior and forgive our sins!