Date: 4/13/19 (Expansion of He Took Our Punishment 3/28/15)

Title: Jesus Took Our Punishment

Theme: Christ was punished for our sins.

Object: Paddle

Text: Isa 53:5-6 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Do you know that spring is here already? It doesn’t seem like it does it?

But a week from tomorrow is Easter or Resurrection Day. And next Friday is Passover.

That’s the very day Jesus was crucified nearly 2,000 years ago.

Our Bible text this morning tells us what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross.

It says He died for our sins. He took our punishment.

Do you know what a punishment is?

Have you ever been punished? What kind of a punishment did you get? (A whack, a crack, a smack, a knober?)

Probably not! Kids have really soft punishments nowadays. You stand in the corner, you go on time out, your mother turns off the TV. What whimpy punishments!

Back when I was a kid, if we did something wrong we got a beatin’.

Some kids called it a lickin’, but in our house it was a beatin’ with my dad’s belt across our behinds.

And it wasn’t just a little light tap. Dad would double his belt, hold us down with one hand and whack our behinds 5, 10 15, 20 times depending on how bad we’d been.

My dad had a saying that made us sit up and take notice: “If I take this belt off, I’m going to use it!”

I still remember the adrenaline rush I would get when I heard his belt coming off [describe.]

If my parents told me to do something and I didn’t do it, I got a beatin’.

If my parents told me **not** to do something and I did it anyway, I got a beatin’.

If I didn’t respect my parents, I got a beatin’.

Now when I was a kid, you could even get a beatin’ at school.

And in school, they didn’t use a belt, they used a paddle like this [show paddle].

[Tell story of the swat I got from Mr. Siebert for forgetting my gym clothes for gym class.]

Do you think I ever forgot my gym clothes after that?

Pain has a way of teaching us lessons that we never forget.

Now our Bible verse today says that Jesus took our punishment.

He died on the cross for our sins.

Sin is when we disobey God, and the punishment for sin is death.

It’s not just a whack with the paddle… it’s death, eternal death, we’re dead forever.

But here’s the good news.

If you love Jesus and trust in Him, He takes the punishment of death for you.

Because He died on the cross for your sins, He can forgive you and give you eternal life instead of eternal death.

Here’s what the Bible says: The punishment for sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life when you trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord. (Rom 6:23)

How many want to trust in Jesus today and let Him take away the punishment for your sins?