



SESSION TWO:



Nails Fix Everything

STUDENT HANDOUT

Key Verses

[God] made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross. This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions.

Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault.

Colossians 1:20–22 NLT

ACTIVITY: GOD-HATERS

- How did Paul describe us before Christ's blood made peace between us and God?
- My list of "enemies of God" or "God haters"

QUESTIONS ABOUT BEING GOD'S ENEMY:

1. What similarities or differences do you notice about everyone's lists? What do your lists say about what you think it means to be an enemy of God?

2. What is it like to hear your own name on a list of God's enemies and to know that it's true— that it accurately describes your condition before you gave your life to Christ?

3. On a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being a God-hater, how would you rate how much of an enemy of God you were? What makes it hard to accept that you really were God's enemy?

QUESTIONS ABOUT BEING GOD'S FRIEND:

1. The gift of the nails is that we get to be God's friends—we can have peace with God. Colossians 1:22 says, "You are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault." This is the opposite extreme of being God's enemy. Do you find this truth about yourself—that you are holy and blameless in God's sight—easier to believe and accept than the truth about being God's enemy? Why or why not?

EASTER/LENT FOCUS:

We are challenging all our students to join with the rest of the church and read *He Chose You* in the weeks leading up to Easter. This week's readings will help us understand the true cost of forgiveness. Please read chapters 4–6 in *He Chose You*.

ACTIVITY: HE NAILED IT

To get just a small idea of how much God has forgiven you for, use the space following to write down every sin that you committed in the last two days. Try to leave nothing out—the harsh words, the bad attitudes, the selfish actions, the good things you should have done but you didn't. Don't rush; try to come up with as complete a list as possible. After you are satisfied that you have listed everything you can remember, read back through the list—what if you had to list everything from the last month, or year!—and tell God the wrong you have done or the good you have not done. Express your regret, and pray this verse as your prayer:

For God is working in you, giving you the
desire and the power to do what pleases him.

Philippians 2:13 NLT

[illegible]