

The Gospel Project for Adults, Fall 2017
Interactive Teaching Tips for Adults, Session 2

Introduction: Use the *“Think-Pair-Share”* technique.

Show your group members the video clip “One Person’s Worth” (1 minute, 32 seconds) from the film *Schindler’s List*. This clip is available at <http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/schindlers-list/one-persons-worth>.

In this scene, Goeth and Schindler have a conversation in which the question is asked by Schindler: “What’s a person worth to you?” Goeth responds and says, “No, no, no, no, what’s one worth to you?”

Think-Pair-Share: As your group members watch the video, provide for them the following instructions: “**Think** for 30 seconds about these questions. Now I want you to discuss this in **pairs** with a person on your left or right who is not your spouse.” (Pause for 60 seconds.) Call on 3-4 pairs to **share** one idea.

Point 1: *Dig deeper on the topic of redemption.*

Christ’s atonement is the ground and means of redemption, or to put it another way, redemption is the result of atonement. The goal of this exercise is to help your group members relate God’s love for them by His provision of redemption for sinners.

Using the focal passages of Romans 5:6-8 and Galatians 3:13 ask your group members to comment on God’s love and provision for the church. Have them to share insights. Ensure they understand the link between God’s love for us and His Son’s sacrifice on the cross for our redemption. Emphasize that redemption always demands sufficient payment.

Ask the following: “What does God ask from those for whom He has purchased redemption?” Is it reasonable for Him to ask this?” Discuss these questions with your group members. Their answers should involve the concept of diligent obedience (John 14:15).

Point 2: *Engage their thinking with a challenge.*

We live in a society that equates material wealth with God's blessings. The church has suffered from success. Hand your students a card that reads: "In whatever man does without God he must fail miserably—or succeed more miserably." Ask them to think about this statement and have one or two comment on how they see this trend today.

[Source George MacDonald, "Self-Denial," The Literature Network, accessed August 15, 2017, <http://www.online-literature.com/george-macdonald/unspoken-sermons/23/>.]

Point 3: *Use a sermon illustration.*

The article "Marred Hands Settled the Issue" credits Leslie B. Flynn with the following illustration concerning the price Christ paid for our redemption:

When we think of the extreme suffering He endured to purchase our freedom from sin's penalty, our hearts should overflow with love for Him and should help us shun lesser gods.

An orphaned boy was living with his grandmother when their house caught fire. The grandmother, trying to get upstairs to rescue the boy, perished in the flames. The boy's cries for help were finally answered by a man who climbed an iron drainpipe and came back down with the boy hanging tightly to his neck.

Several weeks later, a public hearing was held to determine who would receive custody of the child. A farmer, a teacher, and the town's wealthiest citizen all gave the reasons they felt they should be chosen to give the boy a home. But as they talked, the lad's eyes remained focused on the floor. Then a stranger walked to the front and slowly took his hands from his pockets, revealing severe scars on them. As the crowd gasped, the boy cried out in recognition. This was the man who had saved his life. His hands had been burned when he climbed the hot pipe. With a leap the boy threw his arms around the man's neck and held on for dear life. The other men silently walked away, leaving the boy and his rescuer alone. Those marred hands had settled the issue.

Many voices are calling for our attention. Among them is the One whose nail-pierced hands remind us that He has rescued us from sin and its deadly consequences. To Him belongs our love and devotion.

[Source: “Marred Hands Settled the Issue,” SermonSearch.com, accessed August 15, 2017, <http://www.sermonsearch.com/sermon-illustrations/5329/marred-hands-settled-the-issue>.]

Conclusion: *Challenge for application.*

Have your students spend a few minutes in silence, contemplating God’s great sacrifice for our sin. If there is unconfessed sin, especially as it relates to anger and wrath, ask them to make it right with the Lord (and others if needed).

Teaching Tip of the Week

Students need to know more than just what a text says and means; they need to know how to apply it in their lives. The goal of our instruction should not primarily be to cover the lesson (i.e., information) but to change lives (i.e., transformation). It is the teacher’s responsibility to help the student. Prayerfully look at 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Colossians 1:28-29 and ask God to help you to balance your giving of information with you guiding toward application.