



STARTER

- When you think of a villain, what comes to mind? What are the attributes of a good villain?

EXPLORE

- **What is Sin? Personal Sin.** "As it is written: 'There is none righteous, no, not one';... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Rom 3:10 & 23) **Inherited Sin.** "When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned." (Romans 5:12) Sin interrupts our fellowship with God and others (1 John 1:3, 6-7; Psalm 66:18) Sin causes a loss of joy (John 15:11; Galatians 5:22) Sin causes the believer to walk in darkness (1 John 1:6; 2:10; Ephesians 5:8) Sin brings a lack of confidence in prayer (1 John 3:19-22; Psalm 66:18). Persistent sin brings about God's chastisement (Hebrews 12:5-11; 1 Corinthians 11:30) It can result in Church discipline - ex-communication (1 Corinthians 5; Matthew 18:17) Persistent sin can even result in physical death - the "sin unto death" (Hebrews 11:30; 1 John 5:16)..

APPLY

- How is sin defined? What is the result of sin?
- Who does this apply to?
- What is the answer for sin?
- What are some euphemisms people use today for sin (e.g. "white lies")? Why do you think people use them? Do you ever hear the word "sin" used outside of the Church?
- How have you seen the effects and/or consequences of sin in your own life or in your family history?
- What thoughts/ideas/images first come to mind when you hear the word "repent?"
- Share a time in your life when you remember making a conscious decision to turn away from something you knew was wrong and you choosing a different way instead.
- Few of us find "guilt" or "fear of punishment" to be very good motivators for anything. What could be a different motivator for us to stop making choices that lead to sin?

PASSAGE FOR STUDY

- Romans 3:9b-18, Romans 7:24-25, Romans 7:18, 1 John 1:9