

Watch out for that Pebble!



Message: Watch out for “little” sins

Scripture: I John 5:17 “All wrongdoing is sin.” (NIV)

Props: A large rock and a pebble

Did you ever drop anything on your toe and it hurt like crazy? Well I brought a rock with me today. (*Show large rock.*) If you dropped this on your toe do you think it would hurt? I would think so! Do you want to take off your shoe and we’ll give it a try? No, I was just kidding!

Here’s another rock. (*Show pebble.*) This one’s so small you can hardly see it. Do you think it would hurt if you dropped this one on your toe? I don’t think so. It’s so small you wouldn’t even feel it.

But what if it got inside your shoe and then you tried to walk around? You’d sure feel it then; that would hurt! And the more you walked, the more it would hurt.

You wouldn’t think something so small could cause such a big problem. And you know what: some people think about sin that way. Some people think that if a sin is small enough, it’s not a problem. For instance they’ll tell a fib and then say, “It’s just a little white lie, so it’s OK.” Well, it may be little, but it’s still a lie. And no sin is small enough to be OK.

Here’s what I John 5:17 says about that: “All wrongdoing is sin.” It doesn’t matter if it’s a “big” sin (*Hold up large rock.*) or a “little” sin (*Hold up pebble.*), it’s still sin. We have to be just as careful to avoid the “little” sins as we do the “big” ones.

Here’s another example: some people will take pencils or paper clips from work and think it’s OK because they’re so small. But even if it’s just a pencil, if it doesn’t belong to you, it’s still stealing. Remember: no sin is small enough to be OK.

Let’s pray about that: Father in Heaven, we know that Your Word says that all wrongdoing is sin, and we want to please You, so we ask that You help us to remember that no sin is small enough to be OK. In Jesus’ Holy Name we pray. Amen.