

God Blesses Contrite Hearts

Keep these ideas in mind as you study Chapter 22.

❖ Jesus warned Peter that the devil would try to make him do something wrong. Jesus prayed that Peter's faith would not fail. Peter promised Jesus that he would be a loyal friend. But Jesus knew that Peter was weak. He said that Peter would deny him three times. Jesus knew that Peter had been scared and that he was truly sorry for denying Jesus. When Peter asked for forgiveness, Jesus gave it. Jesus loved Peter and made Peter the head of his Church.

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❖ In the story of the two men in the Temple, God was most pleased with the man who was sorry for his sins.

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❖ A woman washed Jesus' feet with her tears in sorrow for her sins. Jesus told her that her sins were forgiven and that she had shown great love.

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❖ The good shepherd loved all his sheep. When he lost one of his 100, he searched for it and rejoiced when he found it. Jesus is like this shepherd with us.

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❖ Zacchaeus was a tax collector who climbed a tree to see Jesus. Jesus said he wanted to go to Zacchaeus's house. People grumbled that Zacchaeus was a sinner. Zacchaeus was sorry for cheating people. He promised to repay four times those he cheated and to give half his belongings to the poor. Jesus was pleased.

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❖ A daily examination of conscience helps us remove those things from our hearts that offend God. We become more loving disciples of Jesus.

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❖ In the Act of Contrition, we tell God about our sins and how sorry we are for them. We ask for his mercy in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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