

## Cut & Restore

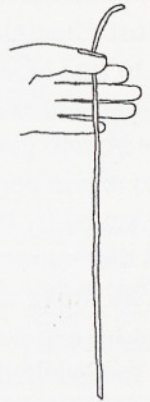
**Material** - Long piece of string, a knife or scissors, a red cloth and two helpers that you call up at the appropriate time.

**Movement** - The string represents our oneness with God at creation, and cutting it the effects of sin. Tying the knot shows our futile attempts at restoring the relationship through religion, leaving the knot of sin there as a barrier. Cut and tie string as shown, sliding off knot under red cloth. Be sure to show knot in cloth - cleansed away by the blood of Christ - as you finish, lest curiosity cause people to miss the real message.

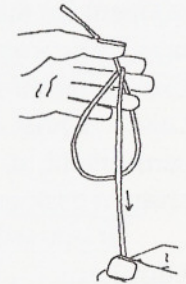
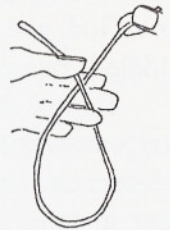
**Message** - Our broken relationship with God can be restored through Jesus Christ.

I'd like to use this piece of string — to illustrate something important. Please gather around for a minute.

In the beginning, God created the world and human beings, our ancestors. That was even before your grandfather's time. Things were great between God and man, so He — could communicate with us, and we — could respond personally to Him. It was just the way it's meant to be! God gave some guidelines about various things, saying if we loved and obeyed Him we would be blessed abundantly...things would remain perfect. However, He didn't make us like robots so we had to choose. He warned us, our ancestors I mean, that to rebel would mean a broken relationship with Him and the loss of LIFE and blessing. His strong recommendation was: Don't do it! But...it was a choice "we" had to make.



Point to top of string at mention of God, etc.



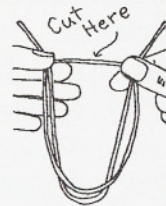
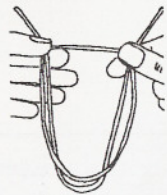
Pull down about half the string. Then raise end, grasping circle as in next diagram.

After some time Adam and Eve decided to do things their way rather than God's and sure enough —, their relationship with God was — broken! And they sensed immediately that things had changed, that they had lost something valuable. And man ever since has tried to find what was lost, to regain what we sense is missing. There are thousands of religions and ideas about how to get back in touch with God —, but they all fail to regain contact because of this thing called sin, represented by this knot —, that blocks the way. Our sin is the barrier that makes all our efforts fail. God's love, as strong as ever, can no longer flow to us as it's meant to, and we can't really know God as He intended. This thing called sin is a real spoiler!

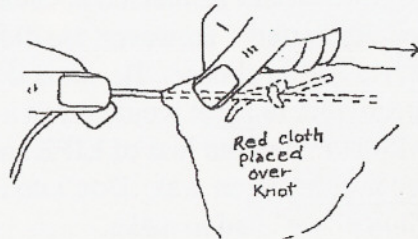
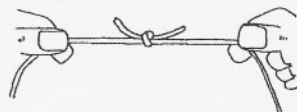
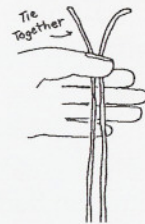
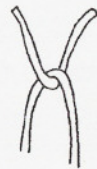
Without God's intervention there would be no way back, but He is too loving to let such a thing happen. Can I have two volunteers to help me, one holding either end of my string —? Thank you. One end represents God, and the other end us, and the knot in the middle is our sin.

I'd like this red cloth — to represent Jesus Christ, God's answer to our problem. Sin has to be paid for before it can be removed and this is what the Lord Jesus came to do on our behalf. His death on the Cross was a payment for the wrong we've all done. God's Word says, "*The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*" Christ died in our place, He took our punishment, so that we can be forgiven and brought back to God.

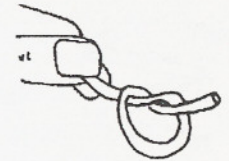
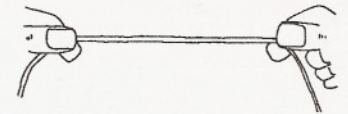
If you will personally trust the Lord Jesus —, He will remove the barrier of sin that separates you from God —! Your relationship with God your heavenly Father will be healed, now and forever.



Strings overlay under thumb.



And what about your sin? His Word tells us that our sin — will be taken away forever, and will never be brought against us again!



After showing knot, "hide" it again in cloth to illustrate sin being cleansed by the blood of Christ forever.

guidelines  
robots  
rebel  
recommendation

Adam + eve  
find what was lost  
fail  
no longer flow

1. Rom 3:23  
2. 1 Jn 1:9  
3. Eph 2:8,9

red cloth  
paid before removed

The wages  
death — forgiven  
brought back 2 God

4. 1 Jn 1:7

Challenge

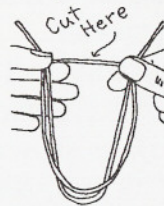
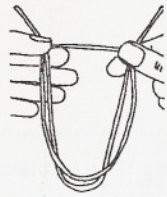
what about sin -

After some time Adam and Eve decided to do things their way rather than God's and sure enough —, their relationship with God was — broken! And they sensed immediately that things had changed, that they had lost something valuable. And man ever since has tried to find what was lost, to regain what we sense is missing. There are thousands of religions and ideas about how to get back in touch with God —, but they all fail to regain contact because of this thing called sin, represented by this knot —, that blocks the way. Our sin is the barrier that makes all our efforts fail. God's love, as strong as ever, can no longer flow to us as it's meant to, and we can't really know God as He intended. This thing called sin is a real spoiler!

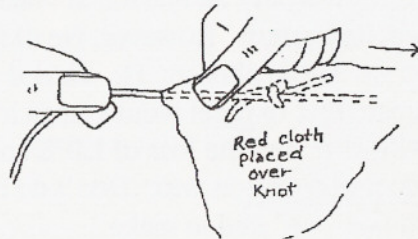
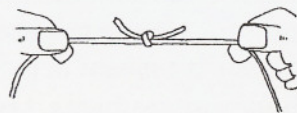
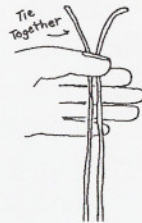
Without God's intervention there would be no way back, but He is too loving to let such a thing happen. Can I have two volunteers to help me, one holding either end of my string —? Thank you. One end represents God, and the other end us, and the knot in the middle is our sin.

I'd like this red cloth — to represent Jesus Christ, God's answer to our problem. Sin has to be paid for before it can be removed and this is what the Lord Jesus came to do on our behalf. His death on the Cross was a payment for the wrong we've all done. God's Word says, "*The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*" Christ died in our place, He took our punishment, so that we can be forgiven and brought back to God.

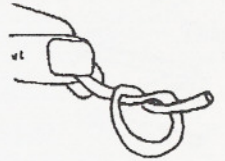
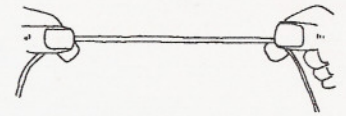
If you will personally trust the Lord Jesus —, He will remove the barrier of sin that separates you from God —! Your relationship with God your heavenly Father will be healed, now and forever.



Strings overlay under thumb.



And what about your sin? His Word tells us that our sin — will be taken away forever, and will never be brought against us again!



After showing knot, "hide" it again in cloth to illustrate sin being cleansed by the blood of Christ forever.

guidelines  
robots  
rebel  
recommendation

Adam + eve  
find what was lost  
fail  
no longer flow

1. Rom 3:23  
2. 1 Jn 1:9  
3. Eph 2:8,9

red cloth  
paid before removed

The wages  
death — forgiven  
brought back 2 God

4. 1 Jn 1:9

Challenge

what about sin -