

Chains of Evil

A passage in the Heavenly Doctrine says that a person who embraces evil loves becomes bound by chains of evil that he doesn't feel until after death, when he makes the transition to hell. This teaching may remind us of the appearance of Bob Marley's ghost in Charles Dickens's book, *The Christmas Carol*. Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by Marley, his former partner, who carries heavy chains and says of them, "I wear the chain I forged in life.... I made it link by link...and of my own free will I wore it."

Project Ideas:

Make a paper chain with an evil action written on each loop.

OR

Make a picture of an evil person bound by chains, and add a caption such as: "Chains of evil bind a person who cares only about himself."

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Activity Idea:

Rather than picture the chain itself, think about the way bad habits can become like chains that make it harder and harder to do what is right. With the Lord's help we can "break free" from bad habits, but we make it harder the more we do them.

Chains of Evil Quote:

He who has advanced more interiorly and deeply into infernal societies becomes as if he were bound with chains. So long as he lives in the world, however, he does not feel his chains, for they are as if made from soft wool or from fine threads of silk.... But after death, instead of being soft they become hard, and instead of being pleasant they become galling.

(Divine Providence 296:3)