

What Is Sin? Lesson 4 – Actual Sins in Our Lives

Introduction:

- What does the Bible teach about the way sin affects _____?

1. Are some sins _____ than others?

A. All sins make us **LEGALLY** guilty before God.

- Any one sin, even what may seem to be a very small sin, makes us _____ before God, and _____ of eternal punishment.

Gen 2.17 *but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”*

Rom 5.16b *For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation*

Gal 3.10 *For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.”*

- All sins are _____ bad because any sin, great or small, makes us legally guilty before God.

James 2.10–11 *For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. 11 For he who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.*

B. Some sins have more harmful _____ in our lives and in our relationship with God.

John 19.11b *Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.”*

Matt 5.19 *Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.*

Matt 23.23 *“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.*

- Some sins bring more _____ to God than others.

- Some sins are committed _____.

Lev 4.2 “Speak to the people of Israel, saying, If anyone sins unintentionally in any of the LORD’s commandments about things not to be done, and does any one of them,

Lev 5.17 “If anyone sins, doing any of the things that by the LORD’s commandments ought not to be done, **though he did not know it, then realizes his guilt**, he shall bear his iniquity.

- Some sins are committed _____, repeatedly, and knowingly, and are more displeasing to God than sins that are committed out of ignorance.

Num 15.30 But the person who does anything with a high hand, whether he is native or a sojourner, reviles the LORD, and that person shall be cut off from among his people.

- Some sins cause more harm to _____ than other sins.

- Some sins cause more harm to _____ than other sins.

- If a mature pastor or Christian leader were to sin willfully and publicly, it would be even more serious in God’s sight.
 - It would bring more harm to the reputation of the _____.
 - Those in leadership positions are held to a higher standard of _____ before God.

James 3.1b we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

C. The distinction that Scripture makes in degrees of sin helps us in practical ways.

- It helps us to know where we should put more _____ in our spiritual growth.

Matt 23.23 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.

- It helps us to decide when we should confront a friend or family member over an evident sin or to simply _____ a minor fault in them.

James 5.19–20 *My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, 20 let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.*

1 Pet 4.8 *Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.*

- It helps us to decide when _____ is appropriate.
 - Sins that should bring church discipline include:
 - False teaching
 - Causing disunity
 - Public immorality
- It helps us to realize that there is good reason for the civil government to have laws and penalties that prohibit certain kinds of wrongdoing, but not other kinds of wrongdoing.

Rom 13.3a *For rulers are not a terror to good **conduct**, but to bad.*

2. What are the effects of sin in the life of a _____?

A. When Christians sin, our legal standing before God is _____.

1 John 3.2a *Beloved, we are God's children now,*

Eph 1.5 *he predestined us for **adoption** as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,*

Rom 5.1 *Therefore, since we have been **justified** by faith, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Cor 6.9–10 *Or do you not know that **the unrighteous** will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.*

1 Cor 6.11 *And such **were** some of you. But you **were washed**, you **were sanctified**, you **were justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

- Those who know Christ by faith, have been made _____ by God.

2 Cor 5.21 *For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, **so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.***

- God will never make us pay the penalty for sins that have been _____ because of Christ's death.

1 Cor 15.3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that **Christ died for our sins** in accordance with the Scriptures,

Rom 8.1 There is therefore now **no condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Rom 8.3b By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,

- We are accepted by God and we stand before Him as " _____ " but "righteous" forever!

Rom 8.33–34 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. **34** Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

B. When Christians sin, our _____ with God is disrupted.

- When we sin as Christians, God does not stop loving us, but God is _____ with us as His children.

Eph 4.30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

C. When Christians sin, we will suffer the _____ of our sins.

Matt 5.25–26 Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. **26** Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

2 Th 3.10 For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.

2 Sam 12.13–14 David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die. **14** Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child who is born to you shall die."

D. When we sin as Christians, our life and _____ in ministry are damaged.

Prov 25.26 *Like a muddied spring or a polluted fountain is a righteous man who gives way before the wicked.*

Rom 2.23–24 *You who boast in the law dishonor God by breaking the law. 24 For, as it is written, “The name of God is **blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.**”*

Titus 2.5 *to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, **that the word of God may not be reviled.***

1 Tim 6.1 *Let all who are under a yoke as bondservants regard their own masters as worthy of all honor, **so that the name of God and the teaching may not be reviled.***

Matt 5.13 *“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.*

E. When we sin as Christians, we suffer the loss of _____ reward.

2 Cor 5.10 *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.*

1 Cor 3.12-15 *Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— 13 each one’s work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. 14 If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.*

F. God may _____ us if we continue to disobey Him, but this is an act of His love toward us as sons, not His wrath toward us as enemies.

Heb 12.5–6 *And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you **as sons**?
“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
nor be weary when reprovved by him.*

6 ***For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and chastises every son whom he receives.”***

Heb 12.10 *For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us **for our good**, that we may share his holiness.*

Rev 3.19 *Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.*

- **We will be _____ to full fellowship with God when we humble ourselves, confess our sin, and renew our faith and repentance.**

Psa 51.17 *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*

1 Pet 5.5b *“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”*

1 John 1.9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

The fact that God disciplines us and never fails to forgive us is a great comfort for every Christian!

God’s promises to forgive us and cleanse us even when we sin after we are saved!

- **That promise is made possible not because of our faithfulness, but because of the _____ work of Jesus Christ on the cross for us.**

1 John 2.1–2 *My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.*