

Let's Discuss...Sin

PART 1_What is Sin?



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the video

Scriptures mentioned:

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...
Romans 3:23 ESV

The Ten Commandments
Exodus 20:1-17, Deuteronomy
5:6-21

Hey Group Leaders!

Consider this flow for the study time together with your small group:

1. See if anyone wants to share on what came up for them as they reflected on this over the last week:
 - » Experiment with this idea that there is no eternal existence after death. If you suddenly found out that this is true (please note - we DO NOT believe this is true!), how would this affect your thoughts on sin? Would it have any impact on your daily rhythms and routines? How would it change the way you live?
2. Watch this week's video, **Let's Discuss...Sin PART 1_What is Sin?**
3. Choose a couple of the "Let's Discuss..." questions below to discuss in your group.
4. Go over this week's reflection prompt with your group.
5. Choose someone in your group (try to pick someone different each week) to close in prayer, using the prompt below as a guide. Additionally, see if there are any other prayer requests amongst the group and allow your group members the opportunity to pray for each other.

Summary

In this opening chat on sin, we talk about our initial thoughts when we hear the word "sin". Jonny sets the tone by mentioning how we've all sinned, Jerry talks about how he's learned to both accept that he's a sinner and also extend grace to himself, and Katie shares a great illustration about how our heart as Jesus followers is not to see how close we can get to sin, but to stay as far away from it as possible.

Let's Discuss...

- What came to mind for you as you heard these perspectives on the idea of sin? Did any resonate with you, or did you disagree with any?
- How often do you think about your sin? Is it something that regularly weighs on you, or do you rarely think about it?
- Do you believe there are "levels" of sin, or are all sins equal? How does Scripture support or challenge your understanding of this?
- Consider Katie's story about staying as far from the cliff edge as possible. Read 1 Corinthians 6:12. Are there any areas of your life that are permissible but not beneficial?
 - » **Note!* Most scholars believe that Paul was not stating that "all things are beneficial", instead he was quoting popular Corinthian slogans that were being used to justify sinful behaviour, and turning these phrases on their heads. See how it's worded in the CJB translation:

You say, "For me, everything is permitted"? Maybe, but not everything is helpful. "For me, everything is permitted"? Maybe, but as far as I am concerned, I am not going to let anything gain control over me.
1 Corinthians 6:12 CJB

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Let's Reflect This Week...

Katie talks about the fruits of obeying the disciplines and guidelines that God lays out for us in Scripture. This week, be intentional to notice and contrast **the fruit** of both godly living and sin. This may be in your own life, or something you observe around you in movies, television, friends, etc...

Bonus thought!

What difference, if any, does it make if someone is a Christian as to how they experience the fruit of either godly living or sin?

Let's Pray...

Everything is permissible for me, but not all things are beneficial. Everything is permissible for me, but I will not be enslaved by anything [and brought under its power, allowing it to control me].

1 Corinthians 6:12 AMP

- Let's ask God to open our eyes to what motivates our different behaviours, and the fruit that comes from them. Allow the Holy Spirit to show you if there are any areas that seem permissible, but are not beneficial, and possibly enslave us. Ask for the grace to surrender these areas as we endeavour, as His disciples, to be more like Jesus.