
C.O.R.E

Commit - Obey - Relationship - Encourage



Lesson Six:
Dealing with Sin

How Do I Overcome Sin in My Life?

A famous preacher once said that when a saved person begins to battle sin in his own life, he enters a combat so intense it makes World War II look like a Sunday School picnic. This truth is not evident to a young Christian, but as you grow, you will realize further the intensity of the struggle.

As we saw very briefly in lesson two, when you got saved, you became two people. Your old man in Adam's image has a sinful nature, and your new man in Christ Jesus has God's image. This lesson is designed to help you combat the sin nature of the old man.

What Is Sin?

1. Sin is breaking God's Law (I John 3:4).
2. Sin is any unrighteousness (I John 5:17).
3. Sin is anything done apart from faith (Romans 14:23).

Why Do I Sin?

1. You sin because you inherited a sinful nature from Adam (Romans 5:12; I Corinthians 15:45-49).
2. You sin because your old nature draws you into sin (James 1:13-14; Romans 7:14-25).
3. You sin as a result of temptation in three major areas which are outlined in I John 2:15-16, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

Jesus was also tempted in these three areas, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15).

1. “The lust of the flesh”: Eve was tempted in this point when she saw that the tree of knowledge of good and evil was “good for food” (Genesis 3:6). Jesus was tempted in this point when the Devil tried to get Him to turn stones into bread (Matthew 4:3).
2. “The lust of the eyes”: Eve was also tempted here when she saw the tree was “pleasant to the eyes.” Jesus was tempted as well when the Devil showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and promised to give them to Him in exchange for worship (Matthew 4:8-9).
3. “The pride of life”: Eve fell to the temptation that the fruit of the tree was “to be desired to make one wise.” Jesus overcame the temptation to cast Himself down to prove the angels would take care of Him (Matthew 4:5-6).

How Does God Look at My Sin?

1. Your sin was judged by God at Calvary (2 Corinthians 5:21).
2. If you continue in sin, God will chastise you as a father chastises his son (Hebrews 12:5-11).
3. God will allow you to reap according to what you have sown (Galatians 6:7-8).

What Things Can I Do to Overcome Sin?

1. Your sin is your own fault, not anyone else’s. You must accept responsibility for your sin. You will never correct anything until you face up to your responsibility (Proverbs 28:13).
2. Don’t allow sinful thoughts to control your mind (2 Corinthians 10:5).
3. Don’t make provisions for the flesh (Romans 13:14).
4. Realize that you are dead to sin in Jesus Christ. Dead men cannot sin (Romans 6:6-13; Colossians 3:1-10).
5. Judge your sin. Agree with God that it is sin (I Corinthians 11:31-32).
6. Confess your sins to God (I John 1:9).

7. Hide God's Word in your heart to battle sin.
 - a. God has made a way of escape from temptation (I Corinthians 10:13)
 - b. That way of escape is the Word of God (Psalms 119:9-11).
 - c. Jesus Christ overcame His temptation by quoting Scripture.
 - d. The only sure way of overcoming sin in your life is through the power of the Word of God as you hide it in your heart and apply it to your life.
8. Trust God's promises to cleanse you and fight your battles for you (II Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 4:15-16).
9. Walk in the power of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:16-25; Romans 8:1-8).

How Do I Keep the Influences of a Sinful World from Affecting Me?

1. Don't involve yourself with sinful activities. Of course, you must associate with unsaved people in order to try to win them, but don't get involved in their sin (Ephesians 5:5-12).
2. Separate yourself from the ways of the world and follow the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 6:14-18; James 4:4).
3. Realize that "separation" is also a positive thing. Not only are you to be separate from the world, but you are to separate yourself unto the gospel (Romans 1:1).

Questions & Answers

1. List three definitions of sin.

A.

B.

C.

2. Why do we have to battle sin?

A.

B.

3. Briefly explain in your own words what the Apostle Paul is communicating to us in Romans 7:14-25.

4. All sin originates from one of three categories. List the three that are seen in I John 2:16.

A.

B.

C.

5. Match the three categories of question #4 with the three things that Eve saw in Genesis 3:6.

A.

B.

C.

6. Match the three categories of question #4 with the three areas the Devil tempted Jesus with in Matthew 4:3-11.

A.

B.

C.

7. List three ways that God looks at your sin.

A.

B.

C.

8. Why must you accept responsibility for your sin?

9. Briefly explain the instructions given to us in the following verses.

A. Romans 13:14

B. I Corinthians 11:31-32

C. I John 1:9

D. II Corinthians 7:1

10. Jesus Christ overcame His temptation by quoting Scripture (Matthew 4:3-11). What do the following two verses teach us about this?

A. I Corinthians 10:13

B. Psalms 119:11

11. List three ways that help minimize the influence of a sinful world on your life.

A.

B.

C.

12. Briefly explain the primary purpose of this lesson.

Key Memory Verses

“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” (Psalms 119:11).

“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15).

“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:11).

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Additional Thoughts

In many churches today, some popular teachings are:

1. These are “big sins” and “little sins.”
2. Sometimes you have to sin because someone else forces you to.
3. Our sins can be forgiven by other men if we confess them.
4. If I sin badly enough, I can lose my salvation.

From the Bible principles taught in this lesson, you should understand that these attitudes are wrong, and why.

