

JESUS > SIN

A QUICK TABERNACLE TOUR

THE PASSAGE

Hebrews 9:1-10:18

FOUR THINGS FEW PEOPLE UNDERSTAND

(1) How **HOLY** God is

Isaiah 6:1-5/ Revelation 1:17/ Isaiah 64:6/ Exodus 33:18-20

(2) How **BAD** our sin is

Genesis 3 & Romans 5:12/ Romans 2:1, 3:23 & 6:23/ Leviticus 4:13-21

We are both **POLLUTED** and **GUILTY**

(3) How **AMAZING** God's grace is

Romans 5:8/ Ephesians 2:8-9/ Mark 3:28-29/ 1 John 2:2

He died for his **ENEMIES**

There is **NOTHING** we can **BOAST** about

(4) The difference between ETERNAL **FORGIVENESS**
and EARTHLY **CONSEQUENCES**

2 Samuel 12:13-14

WHEN WE FULLY GRASP THESE THINGS

- ✓ It will change everything about how we **THINK** about and how we **TREAT** others

Colossians 3:13

Growth Group Homework

For the week of April 8, 2018

QUICK REVIEW: Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Who's your go-to band or artist when you can't decide on something to listen to?

2. We're going to do something a little different with this question. Take 60 seconds and write down as many sins you can think of without stopping (you won't have to share your answers in the group).

Ok, stop! What was that experience like? Where was your focus? Was it easy or hard to do? Did it start with the "big" sins? Were you thinking about others or yourself? Did it affect you in a way that caused you to feel judgmental toward others? Towards yourself? More compassionate? Which ones would you say are the "big" sins?

3. Looking back to the "Four Things Few People Understand" in this weekend's message, which one catches your attention the most and why?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. As we heard this weekend, we can easily fall into the trap of thinking "small sins" are no big deal. CS Lewis has this to say in his book *The Screwtape Letters*, as to why we need to be extremely careful of falling into this mindset.

"It does not matter how small the sins are provided that their cumulative effect is to edge the man away from the Light and out into the Nothing. ...Indeed the safest road to Hell is the gradual one – the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts."

– *The Screwtape Letters*, CS Lewis

How does Paul's "sin list" in his letters to the Galatians and Ephesians reinforce our need to be aware of falling into the trap of some sins having less effect on us than others?

Galatians 5:19-21 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁹The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Ephesians 5:3-7 *New International Version (NIV)*

³ But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. ⁴ Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵ For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.^[a] ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷ Therefore do not be partners with them.

Looking back at these verses, which sins do you think people typically forget are on the list?

Are there any that could more easily trip you up than others?

2. All too often we forget how amazing God's grace is and what it cost him. When Jesus died on the cross he paid for our sins, making it possible for us to experience God's grace and forgiveness. While his grace and forgiveness are free, they aren't cheap. After reading the passages below, what stands out the most about what Jesus had to go through for us?

1 Peter 2:22-25 *New International Version (NIV)*

²² "He committed no sin,

and no deceit was found in his mouth."^[a]

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." ²⁵ For "you were like sheep going astray,"^[b] but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Isaiah 53:4-9 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁴ Surely he took up our pain

and bore our suffering,

yet we considered him punished by God,

stricken by him, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions,

he was crushed for our iniquities;

the punishment that brought us peace was on him,

and by his wounds we are healed.

⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray,

each of us has turned to our own way;

and the Lord has laid on him

the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted,

yet he did not open his mouth;

he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,

and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,

so he did not open his mouth.

⁸ By oppression^[a] and judgment he was taken away.

Yet who of his generation protested?

For he was cut off from the land of the living;

for the transgression of my people he was punished.^[b]

⁹ He was assigned a grave with the wicked,

and with the rich in his death,

though he had done no violence,

nor was any deceit in his mouth.

3. Remembering our need for forgiveness and God's incredible provision of it will undoubtedly help us become more understanding and generous in our forgiveness of others. Which of the following verses help you the most when it comes to thinking and treating others differently?

Colossians 2:13-14 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you^[a] alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

Matthew 5:13-16 *New International Version (NIV)*

Salt and Light

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 7:1-3 *New International Version (NIV)*

Judging Others

⁷ "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

³ "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back at this week's teaching and study, is there anything you specifically would like to process or prayer for in your group?

Prayer Requests:

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Tips on Group Prayer

Prayer is an important part of being in Growth Group. Over the years we've found that group prayer goes better when we follow three simple guidelines.

WE PRAY FOR ONE TOPIC AT A TIME - Anyone in the group is free to introduce a prayer request either before prayer begins or during the prayer time. Once a topic is introduced, the group focuses on that request alone. Once it's covered, the group moves on to the next topic.

PRAY MORE THAN ONCE - Because the group is focusing on one topic at a time, each person is encouraged to pray several times during the prayer time for those topics they feel most led to pray about. No one is required to pray.

WE KEEP OUR PRAYERS SHORT AND SIMPLE - Group prayer goes better when members keep their prayers short and to the point. When someone prays for a long time, it's hard for the other members to stay focused and long prayers tend to intimidate those who are just learning to pray out loud in a group. No one is required to pray out loud.