

CORE

WEEK 7 | SIN

SERMON NOTES

We'll talk today about:

- Our PROBLEM with sin
- Our EXPERIENCE with sin
- Our SOLUTION for sin

The Main Idea: Apart from Jesus, we are hopelessly separated from God. Abiding in Jesus, we are eternally secure with God.

1. Our PROBLEM with Sin

"Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me." (Psalm 51:5)

Sin separates us from God:

- Legally (before salvation)
- Relationally (after salvation)

Our legal standing without Jesus

"There is no one righteous, not even one." (Romans 3:10–12)

"Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin." (Romans 3:20)

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

"You were dead in your trespasses and sins." (Ephesians 2:1–3)

Why did God allow sin?

- Because God is love. (1 John 4:8)
- And love requires freedom. (not coercion)
- And freedom requires choice. (not compulsion)
- And choice requires rejection. (not coexistence)

Sin Is Not...

- An eternal or spiritual force competing with God.
- Self-existent.
- The cause, it is the effect (of choice).

2. Our EXPERIENCE with Sin

Our Experience with Sin

1. Our *identity* before salvation (loved, but *condemned* by our sin)
2. Our *battle* after salvation (loved, and *convicted* of our sin)
3. Our *victory* through Christ (loved, and *beyond* sin's reach)

Salvation gives us:

- A new identity
- A new heart
- A new (spiritual) life
- The Holy Spirit.

Sin Separates

- *Before* salvation, sin creates legal separation and *impossible* fellowship with God.
- *After* salvation, sin creates relational separation and *broken* fellowship with God.

Sin originates where belief and desire meet.

At the root of sin is always misplaced desire.

"Desire detached from God is sin."

Satan wants us to believe:

- God is withholding something better.
- The gift can satisfy us more than God can.
- Our wisdom is superior to God's wisdom.

Belief → Perspective → Desire → Action

- Choice rests on the foundation of desire.
- Desire rests on the bedrock of belief.

What you truly believe shapes your perspective.

Your perspective shapes your desires.

Your desires shape your actions.

Your actions shape your life.

3. Our (God's!) SOLUTION for our sin is two-fold: Salvation and Abiding

Salvation solves our *positional* separation.

Abiding restores our *relational* separation.

Sin separates us from God's relational presence.

Abiding unites us with God's relational presence.

How Do We Abide... and Align Our Desires with God?

1. Renew Your Mind with Scripture
2. Prayer
3. Discipline
4. Prioritize Christ

4. Hope for the Believer

Surrender your beliefs to His truth. Surrender your desires to His character.