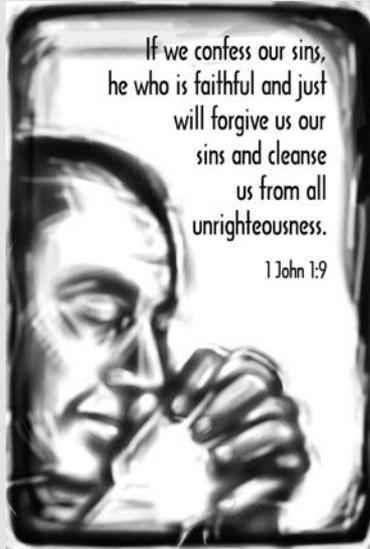


L*esson*
8

Dealing with Sin

“How Do I Overcome Sin in My Life?”



Spiritual warfare! You are in a spiritual battle that wages day and night. You must learn how to fight in order to be victorious in the struggle to overcome sin.

LESSON 8

The purpose of this lesson is to give you a basic understanding of sin. It is also designed to teach you how to live victoriously over sin in your life.

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INTRODUCTION

Victorious living! This is what people want but don't know how to go about getting in their life.

Victory is a glorious concept until we realize that we can only be victorious when we have succeeded in conflict. Victorious Christian living is learning to succeed through the conflicts that we face as Christians.

Victorious living is the result of obeying the Word of God. Victory comes through obedience. Obedience to the Word of God cannot be stressed enough; it is the key to growth as a Christian.

In this Bible study lesson, we will survey some of the things that would hinder our obedience. The Bible clearly warns us of things that we will encounter that would stop us from obeying God.

If we are to live victoriously, we must know our enemy and how to deal with those elements that would prevent our growth as a Christian.

WHO IS THE ENEMY?

1. Look up II Corinthians 10:3-5. How does Paul describe the Christian life?

2. According to these verses, what kind of weapons do you use in this war?

The World

1. I John 2:15-17 describes the first enemy you will face that will attempt to keep you from obeying.
 - a. What is the enemy?

 - b. This enemy will attempt to make three things the passion of your life?
 - 1) The lust of the flesh—pleasure
 - 2) The lust of the eyes—possessions (materialism)
 - 3) The pride of life—position

Lesson 8

The world simply tries to make one or all of these things the consuming desire of our life. Not one of these things is wrong in itself; it is wrong, however, when it becomes the passion of your life. Unfortunately, too many people are living today just to have a good time, to accumulate things, or to climb the ladder of success. God wants us to make obeying His Word the passion of our life.

2. Look up these verses and write out the truths each verse is giving.

Romans 12:1-2

John 17:15-16

3. Look up Matthew 6:33 and explain the principle Jesus is teaching in this verse.

Discipleship—How to Deal with Sin

4. Titus 2:11-12 teaches how you should handle “ungodliness and worldly lusts (desires).” What does verse 12 say you should do?

The Flesh

1. Romans 7:18-21 describes our second enemy that would prevent us from obeying God. What is it?

2. Romans 6:16-17 explains the two choices you face as a Christian. List them.

3. According to these verses, what does God want you to choose?

4. James 1:12-15 describes how your flesh operates to keep you from obeying.
 - a. In verse 14, what do you and every Christian face continually?
 - b. Verse 14 says temptation comes when you are drawn away. From whom do you think you are drawn away?
 - c. What, then, is the key to overcoming temptation?
 - d. Verses 14 and 15 describe the process of disobedience.
 - 1) You are drawn away from the Word of God. (v. 14)
 - 2) Temptation comes at that time of weakness. (v. 14)
 - 3) Temptation produces **a desire in** you to participate in the sin. (v. 15)
 - 4) The sin itself takes form. (v. 15)

Discipleship—Dealing with Sin

Ponder the process of disobedience to see and to understand how your flesh works and how choosing to obey God will keep you from choosing to participate in sin.

5. Consider I Corinthians 10:13
 - a. Are the temptations you face different than anyone else faces?

 - b. What does God promise about the temptations?

 - c. What will God always provide when you are tempted?

The Devil

1. Look up I Peter 5:8 and fill in the blanks.

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your _____
the devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he
may _____.”

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 speaks of Satan's attacks on your life.

a. What does verse 12 teach about this battle?

b. Verses 13-18 describe your defense. Note carefully your defense against Satan.

Verse 14: having girded your waist with _____

Breastplate of _____

Verse 15: having shod your feet with the preparation of

the gospel of _____

Verse 16: the shield of _____

Verse 17: the helmet of _____

Verse 17: the sword of the Spirit, which is the _____

Verse 18: _____ always.

3. James 4:7: What does God promise you regarding the devil?

4. What does it mean to resist someone or something?

All these enemies attempt to keep us from obeying God and His Word. Disobedience is sin! Every enemy we face wants us to sin by disobeying God. Our enemies are the world, the flesh, and the devil.

WHAT IS SIN?

1. Look up the following verses and define sin.

I John 3:4 Sin is _____

I John 5:17 Sin is _____

Romans 14:23 whatever is not from _____
is sin.

Sin is disobeying what God has written. It is sin because it is inconsistent with the nature of God.

2. Why do you sin as a Christian?
 - a. Because you still have a sin nature.
Romans 5:12, I Corinthians 15:45-49
 - b. Because your old sin nature desires to sin.
Romans 7:14-25, James 1:13-14
3. What does sin do to you as a Christian?
 - a. According to Psalm 51:12, when sin is in your life, what do you lose?
 - b. According to Proverbs 28:13, what happens when you cover sin?

- c. Sin disrupts your fellowship with God. Sin hinders unity in the church. Sin is devastating in the life of a Christian.
4. How do you deal with sin that gets into your life?
- a. I John 1:9 says you are to do what when you sin?
 - b. Proverbs 28:13 teaches you to do what regarding sin?

To “confess” means to “admit to God that your sin is sin.” Never make excuses for sin. Never blame it on someone or something else. Accept responsibility for your sin and confess it to God, asking Him to forgive you for committing the sin.

- c. Read this verse again:

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

- 1) What does God promise if you confess your sin?
- 2) What does this verse say about your feelings?

OBEYING GOD

1. Psalm 119 teaches some important truths about overcoming sin. Look up these verses and write down how the Bible will help you.

Verse 11 _____

Verse 105 _____

Verse 133 _____

God's Word plays an important part in our overcoming sin. We must make the commitment to obey God by obeying His Word!

2. Look up II Timothy 3:16 to see why the Word of God is profitable in your life.

a. _____
(what to believe)

b. _____
(how to deal with sin)

c. _____
(how to change)

d. _____
(how to live)

Obeying God is the key to living a victorious Christian life. If we fail to obey God, we will live a life of sin. But if we make the choice to obey God, we can live victoriously over sin.

You have learned some important truths from this lesson. You should be able to answer these basic questions regarding God's Word:

1. True False I must not be forgiven because I don't feel right.
2. True False "The Devil made me sin."
3. Does sin in the life of a Christian affect fellowship or relationship?

Write down any questions you may have regarding this lesson.



