

CALL to PRAYER -

Lord's Prayer / Model Prayer

Intro – The subject matter today in our “*Definitions*” series is something we all love to do but hate to admit/acknowledge...SIN. Sin is a big subject. As sinners, *sin* is something that defines us. There is something wrong with all of us and that defect is sin. Sin infects us, seduces us and enslaves us, yet we cling to sin and it to us. “Sin” seems to be the only “4 letter word” forbidden in our vocabulary. An array of vile words are accepted in polite society except to say something is wrong or sinful. Calling something “sin” crosses a line in our corrupted land. But a good question to ask in a society where morals are turned upside down is, “*Why is anything wrong?*” Who determines what is right or wrong? Are morals social constructs or Divine edicts? Who says that some things are sins/evil? And what is sin? Sin is huge subject... our favorite subject though a secret subject. We are going to try and tackle it and define it and then end up being encouraged to repent from it. There is *sin* to turn from and a *Savior* to turn to. content collate condense

James 1:12-16; 1 John 3:4-5 - Definitions 10 - What is Sin?

1. *The Origin of Sin* (there is both certainty and mystery when considering this)
 - a. God is not the Author of Sin James 1:13
 - i. God is Light – 1 John 1:5 Holy, holy, holy Habakkuk 1:13
 - b. Satan is the original sinner Sin begins with him
 - i. 1 John 3:8 we don't know how sin began but it began with him and he sinned from the beginning
 - ii. Satan loved himself more than God (Isaiah 14:12-15 Ezekiel 28:12-19)
 1. Self-love & pride are primordial and preeminent sins
 - a. These will increase at the end - 2 Tim. 3:1-2a
 - iii. Jesus saw Satan fall from heaven (Luke 10:18) Satan took 1/3 of angels (Rev. 12:3-4)
 1. Sin = pride and rebellion against God (James 4:4 – hostile / enemy)
2. *Original Sin*
 - a. Our first father Adam sinned against God. He rebelled against God's law/ word
 - b. Adam's sin was our sin. We sinned in him. We inherited sin & death Rom. 5:12
 - i. DNA - *Defect Not Avoidable. Death Not Avoidable* Sin is in our DNA
 - c. We are condemned in him Rom. 5:18-19
 - i. We are conceived in sin (Psalm 51:5; Is. 48:8) and born dead in sin (Eph. 2:1)
3. *Defining Sin* Sin is lawlessness - 1 John 3:4
 - a. If it is not in “The 10” then it is not sin. God defines sin
 - i. Beware of legalism - self-defined sin. Sinful man yearns to be a law to himself...own god
 - b. The reason anything is wrong is because God said so (Transcendent Authority/ law giver)
 - i. Sin is trespassing. Sin is going over the line that God has drawn
 1. God's law shows us our sin and enflames our sin – Rom. 7:7-8
 - c. Sin is missing the mark Rom. 3:23 Sin is not being perfect.
 - i. S.I.N. = *Satisfactory In Nothing* “Our repentance needs repenting of”
 - ii. We do not & cannot measure up. Only with Christ is God well pleased
 - d. Sin is anything not done in faith - Rom. 14:23 (a “good” sermon can be sin if not done in faith)

4. **The Pleasure of Sin** Heb. 11:25 1 John 2:15-16
 - a. Lust of the flesh - appetites / desires (Phil. 3:19 – whose god is their stomach)
 - b. Lust of the eyes - looks good / pleasing to eyes Gen. 3:6 (bait)
 - c. Pride of life These three are the unholy trinity of iniquity
5. **Personal Sin**
 - a. Sin begins within - James 1:14-15
 - i. Sin is conceived after an internal consummation with lust
 - ii. This union of temptation & lust produces sin
 - b. Sin is within Mark 7:21-23
 - i. Sin is an internal problem that may have an external exhibition – inside out
 - c. Sin is what we do
 - i. We commit sin - we do it in our mind before we do it...but we do it
 1. We do sin and then sin does us
 - d. Sin is what we fail to do
 - i. Sins of omission. Sin is not just doing the bad but also omitting the good
 - ii. James 4:17
6. **Degrees of Sin** All sins are not the same
 - a. Sinful man loves to try and make a moral equivalence between all sins
 - b. Some sins are greater than others - John 19:11
 - i. Matt. 11:20-24
 - c. The greatest sins are in breaking the greatest commandments
 - i. Breaking 1-4 > 5-10 (some commandments are “least” – Matt. 5:19; 23:23-24)
 - d. Some sins God refuses to forgive and are unpardonable (Mark 3:29 Is. 22:12-14)
7. **Punishment for Sin** We do sin then sin does us
 - a. Romans 6:23a
 - i. Sin brings death and deserves death (just desserts) (Satan lied to our parents)
 - ii. Cemeteries give great commentaries on the truthfulness of God
 - b. If you want proof of God’s hatred and punishment of sin – look to the cross
 - i. God spared not His own Son who stood in the place of sinners
 - ii. 1 Cor. 15:3
 - c. 1 John 4:10 - Jesus absorbed the just wrath for our sins – propitiation
 - i. Rom. 5:8-10 (Heb. 9:22) “What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood...”
 - d. We are sin and sin cannot be separated from the sinner....except in Christ
 - i. He carried our sin and was punished for our sin Rom. 6:23
8. **Repenting from Sin**
 - a. Acts 2:37-39 (Acts 3:18-19 Acts 5:30-32 Acts 11:18 Acts 20:21 Heb. 6:1)
 - b. Repentance is turning from your sin to embrace the only Savior of sinners
 - i. You cannot hold on to your sin and Savior at the same time
 - ii. Repentance is turning from one love to another Love
 - c. John 3:16 1 John 1:9