

SESSION 4

FUNDAMENTAL #2: LET'S TALK ABOUT SIN



Biblical Lessons for Students, Athletes & More

FOCAL VERSE:

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

"The Bible will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from the Bible."

Dwight L. Moody

CHAPTER FOUR - GROUP EXPERIENCE "LET'S TALK ABOUT SIN"



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- Read the first paragraph and ask the following:
 - **How would you define sin?**
 - **Do you think churches downplay the issue of sin to make people feel more comfortable? Explain.**
 - **Can you give some examples of sin that might be typical for your age group?**
- **What does the original Greek translation of the word "sin" mean?** (last paragraph). *The original translation means to "miss the mark." Another Hebrew and Greek concept is "to step across," or "to go beyond a set boundary." In basketball, if you step out of bounds with the ball, you have committed a violation. You've gone outside the boundary that was set for you, and that violation has consequences, just like our sins do.*
- **According to the definition on the bottom of page 25, what is "sin?"** *Sin is anything we do, say, or think that is not pleasing to God, including our attitude.*

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- Finish the first paragraph on page 26, then discuss:
 - **Sometimes, basketball can bring out the worst in players, parents, and fans. What types of sin might you or your fans commit in the realm of basketball?** (Possible answers might include: *speaking poorly about your teammates or coach, playing dirty, using profanity, back talking the referees, displaying a negative attitude, being prideful, etc.*)

OPTIONAL DISCUSSION:

- James 2:10 says, "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all."
- According to this scripture, do you believe there are "degrees of sin?" In other words, are some sins more serious than others, or does God view them all equal in terms of their consequences?
- The short answer is yes, there are varying degrees of sin, and some sins are greater than others. In fact, in John 19:11, when Jesus addressed Pilate at his trial, he said that, "...he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin."
- For example, harboring hate for someone in our heart is a serious sin. Yet, to hate someone in such a way that one plans and executes their death is "greater" in terms of its intention, result, and consequences. For more, visit www.thegospelcoalition.org and search "degrees of sin."

"All have missed the mark and didn't get their arrow to hit the perfection of God."

Duke Tabor



- **When should we confess our sins and why?** We should confess our sins the moment we become aware of them, because sin separates us from God.
- **Has confession and repentance been a natural part of your prayer life?**
- **Are we all convicted of the same sins? Explain.** (Last paragraph)

A note about judging others based on your personal convictions...

Don't judge others because they sin differently than you.

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- **After reading page 27, read the following:**
 - A basketball player who plays college basketball for a single year and then declares for the NBA draft is said to be "one and done." (Rules are different for the WNBA).
 - **Allow someone to explain, in their own words, Christ's "one and done."** It's important for the group to understand that Jesus came to make atonement for all our sins, one time for all mankind. There's not one sin he did not pay for! No, not one!

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PERSONAL TRAINING SESSION

- God wants us to acknowledge our sins by confessing them to Him. **Look up 1 John 1:9. What does God say He will do if we confess our sins?**
 - Confessing our sins should become a natural part of our prayer lives.
- Is it possible to confess your sins without repenting? Is it possible to repent without confessing your sin? Explain.

Page 29

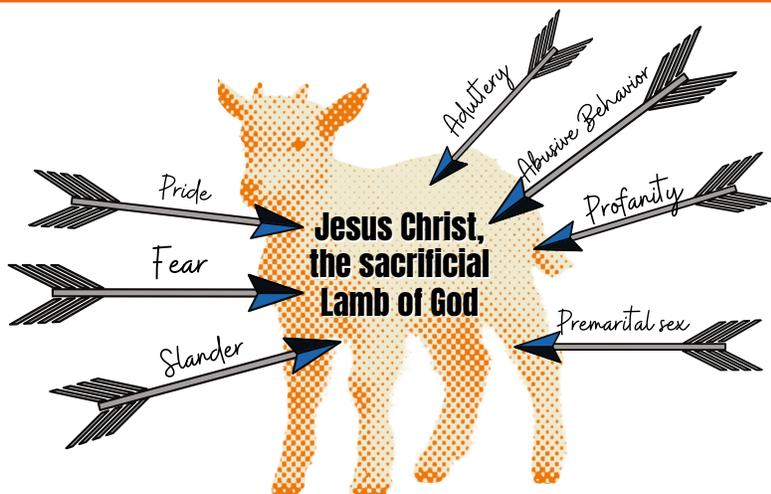
- End with Post Game Prayer.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

Next session, we will discuss:

- What it *really* means to be a Christian
- How to become a Christian
- What's expected of you, if you choose to live your life under the lordship of Jesus Christ

DAY OF ATONEMENT



Jesus Christ made atonement for our sins, *one time* for *all* mankind.



Leviticus 16:7-8 –
 “And he shall take the two goats, and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats; one lot for the LORD, and the other lot for the scapegoat.”