

Sin

Sin arose in the Garden of Eden and comes from the free will that God created us with. God desires to have a relationship with us but our sin must first be dealt with. This is because God is completely holy and cannot be in the presence of sin. Any action, attitude or thought that stands against the will of God is called sin in the Bible. The main consequences of sin are separation from God and death, and it is only possible to reverse these consequences (be reconciled with God and have eternal life) if our sin is done away with.

Genesis 3:1-8

- What was at the core of the sin of Adam and Eve? (*Clue: Whose will/ desire did they follow?*)

Genesis 6:5-7

- Think of the worst thing someone ever did to you - How did it make you feel?
- How does our sin affect God?

Romans 3:23

- Is there anyone in the world who has never sinned?

Genesis 3:22-24; Isaiah 59:1-2

- What was the consequence of the sin of Adam and Eve in terms of their relationship with God?
- What according to Isaiah does sin do to our relationship with God?
- Can you remove this wall of sin based on your own effort, attempt to be good, or desire to quit sinning?

Romans 6:23

- What is the payment for sin?
- What is the gift that God offers us that is the opposite of separation from Him and death?

Galatians 5:19-21 and Colossians 3:5-9

- Which of these sins are present in your life? (do an honest self-assessment – God knows anyway ...)

James 4:17

- What are some examples of things that we don't do, that we know we ought to do?

Mark 7:20-23

- Where does our sin come from?
- Why is it important for us to take responsibility for our sin instead of blaming our situation or others?

James 1:13-15

- According to this passage, where does sin start?
- What are the stages in the development of sin? Where does it ultimately end?

James 5:13-16

- Why should we confess our sin to other Christians? How does it help bring about healing?

1 John 1:5-10

- What, according to this passage, is the result of confessing our sin? What happened when we don't?

Reflection: How has your sin hurt you? How has your sin hurt others? How has your sin hurt God?

FURTHER STUDY

Genesis 1:27; 5:3. What do you think it means to be created in the image of God? In whose image was the son of Adam born? What does this tell you about the effect of sin?

Genesis 3: 8-11. Sin also causes shame and a desire to want to hide. Can you relate to this truth?

Romans 5:12. There is a clear link between sin and death, going right back to Adam.