

Dealing with Secret Sins

Acts 5:1-11

United Community Church, 7-2-23

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Intro: On Tuesday, we celebrate our freedom as a nation. Just as freedom was not free when America was founded, our freedom from sin was paid for by the blood of Christ. Christ died for our sin so we could be free to serve Him. Secret sins in our lives keep us from serving Christ effectively and productively.

FIVE LIES ABOUT SECRET SINS

1. I can continue in secret sin and be an effective Christ follower
Truth: God hates sin – Sin is Satan’s tool used to destroy God’s work, turn God’s people from Him, and render God’s people powerless
2. Secret sins don’t affect others
Truth: All sins are against God – Sins are NEVER secret because your sin affects your relationship with God and the people around you
3. God has not done anything to you, so He must not mind your sin
Truth: Sin ALWAYS has consequences – Satan disguises sin by using different terminology, by convincing you sin is not bad, or giving you excuses to justify your sin. However, God will discipline you for your sin because He wants you to live for Him, not live for yourself
4. NO ONE will ever find out – hiding your sin reveals a serious spiritual heart problem
Truth: God knows your sin and the Holy Spirit will convict you to confess it
5. Everybody sins – “I just can’t help it” or “It’s just the way I am”
Truth: God saves you despite your sin so that He can transform you to live a holy and righteous life for Him

HOW YOU CAN DEAL WITH SECRET SIN

1. Confess don’t suppress – go to God with your sin. Don’t let shame suppress the Holy Spirit convicting you of your sin
2. Fellowship instead of flee – lean into a Christ centered community and grow in your walk instead of fleeing the faith because of sin
3. Fear God not failure – maintain a healthy fear of God and walk closely with Him. Don’t neglect your walk because of moral failure
4. Walk in the Spirit not the flesh – the closer you walk with God, the further you are from fulfilling the desires of the flesh
5. Be MISSION focused, not ME focused – Satan loves to sideline your faith with shame and regret. STOP throwing a pity party, and GET BACK to doing what God has called you to do

BOTTOM LINE

As Christ followers, we must free ourselves from sin by submitting our minds, hearts, and lives to God and by putting sin out of our lives.