



COVENANT CHURCH

Mirrors - The “I” in Sin - Part 2

Ryan Leak

March 14, 2021

Below is a devotional study guide for you to refer to and reflect during the week. You can watch the service online again, anytime, at www.covenantchurch.org/media or on the CovLive app.

If you do not have a physical Bible, we encourage you to download one to your device. YouVersion is available in the Apple Store or on Google Play for free. It contains hundreds of versions, is translated into several languages, and includes thousands of devotional studies available right at your fingertips.

If you are a part of a Small Group, be creative in ways to meet-up. This guide can be a useful tool to lead discussions, whether it be through email, a Facebook group, a Zoom call, etc. If you have not yet joined a Small Group, there's no better time! Go to www.covenantchurch.org/groups or Small Groups on the CovLive app to search for a group that interests you!

Main Idea

Sin robs us of our influence in our relationships, jobs and family. But we can restore it through repentance. And by understanding our personal capacity, credibility and the culture, we can effectively fulfill our mission to win people to Jesus Christ.

Introduction

Our problem with “sin”.

- We don't like the word “sin” these days, would rather call it “stuff” or “issues”.
- Read: Romans 6:23 - The wages of sin is death; the gift of God is eternal life.
 - We have 2 options - choose death or life to relationships, dreams, goals, etc...
 - We can't see the cost if we don't call it what it is. SIN
 - Sin takes us further than we want to go, makes us stay longer than we planned and costs more than we want to pay.
- Sin is a SCAM - Do the math, count the cost.
- To minimize our sin as “it's just....” (phrase), takes our destiny little by little.
- Read: Hebrews 12:1 - God's marked out something special for you.
- Sin robs us of our INFLUENCE. It can be restored through repentance.
 - Men - Don't allow a temporary moment to rob your influence you should have with your kids.
 - Students - God has a plan for your life and the enemy wants to connect you with the wrong relationships to take you off course.
- Repentance simply means - to turn around and go in a different direction.
- You can turn it around today.
- Our influence is how we make a difference in our world.
- Read: Matthew 28 - The Great Commission
 - The Key word is “GO” - we are all in full time ministry.
- Read: Ephesians 4 - Spiritual Gifts for the equipping of the “saints” for the ministry.
- We must steward our influence by understanding our capacity, our credibility and our culture.

Discussion One

Understand your capacity.

- We must know our own lane...our own calling.
- Read: Colossians 4:17 - Carry out the ministry God gave YOU.
- Some are called to entertainment, politics, marketplace, education, social media, etc...
- Read: Mark 6:56 - Everywhere Jesus went, they placed the sick in the marketplaces - where Jesus would be.
- In the Bible, 8% of the miracles happened inside the synagogue (church building), 92% outside the church walls.
- The situations that need miracles don't happen on a Sunday, or at church.
- We are in places, positions to BE the ministry is those lives needing to see a miracle.
- Question: Do you know the ministry the Lord gave you?

Discussion Two

Understand your credibility.

- Read: Acts 22
 - Paul starts by giving his 'street cred'. - "I grew up in Tarsus"
- Read: 1 Corinthians 9:20-22 - "I have become all things to all people so that I can win some"
 - We must ask people what is important to them.
 - We must be present and excellent to elevate credibility to gain influence.
 - 10 things we can do that requires zero talent, but builds credibility:
 - be on time, work ethic, integrity, body language, energy, attitude, passion, being coachable, listening, being prepared
- Read: Colossians 3:23 - Put heart and shoulder as if unto the Lord.
- Question: How can you show up stronger for family, friends and colleagues?

Discussion Three

Understand your culture.

- Read: Philippians 4:22 - Paul sends greetings to Caesar's house. He understood the need to acknowledge the culture in that community.
- Read: Acts 17:4, 22-24 - Paul acknowledges their ways of worship.
 - Paul's ability to be relevant gave him the influence to bring revelation.
- We must learn about scripture and about the people/culture we want to reach.
- Studying culture will put us in the position to be effective with the scripture we've studied.
- Our mission is to have influence and reach people for Jesus Christ.
- Question: What are you learning? Who are you learning? To learn about people, we must ask them: "What's it like to be you?"

Reflective Questions

Mirrors: The "I" in Sin

In addition to the questions presented in each discussion point, we suggest you also ask:
Where have I lost influence? Where do I need to 'turn around' to regain my influence?