



COVENANT CHURCH

Mirrors - The "I" in Sin - Part 1
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March 7, 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

God desires intimacy with us, yet sin stands in the way. He loved us so much He paid the ultimate price to restore it. To minimize our sin is to minimize the cross.

Introduction

Sin robs us of our intimacy with God.

- John 10:10 - Jesus came so we can have life.
 - A life that continues on an upward trajectory
 - Filled with relationships
 - Full of joy and laughter and purpose
- One problem that stands in the way - SIN.
 - Sin is in us and around us and robs us of our intimacy with God.
 - Robs us of our identity, influence and our intended purpose of God.
- Mirrors
 - Not until the 19th century, mirrors were not clear.
 - We all need and use mirrors to help us see ourselves
 - The Word of God is the greatest mirror.
- Read James 1:23-35 - Look into the perfect law (God's Word)
 - God's Word is perfect, needs nothing added or taken away.
 - Looking into the Word of God helps us see our own imperfections.
 - Causes us to grow to maturity as fully surrendered followers of Christ.

Discussion One

God desires intimacy with us.

- Romance and intimacy are not the same.
- Intimacy means to know and be known.
- It's a relationship and requires trust.
- Read: Jeremiah 31:2-6 - God is absolutely in love with you.
- Read: John 17:20-23 - We (God and Jesus) are one and the people will be unified.
- Read: John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that He GAVE His own life!

Discussion Two

Sin disrupts intimacy with God.

- Sin simply means missing the mark.
- We are selfish and weak and live in a corrupt world.
- Read: Romans 3:23 - all have sinned
- Read: Revelations 31:6-8
 - Sin required the death of God through the crucifixion of Jesus.
 - Sin is destructive and dooming.
- Read: 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Read: Matthew 27:41
 - When we minimize sin, we minimize the cross!

Discussion Three

Vulnerability restores intimacy with God.

- King David had an affair with a woman, gets her pregnant and has her husband killed to try and hide it.
- This same person is said to be a "man after God's own heart".
- This is because David was quick to repent.
- Read Psalm 51:2-4, 17
- God doesn't reject a repentant heart.
- What is your next step?
 - Prioritize reading God's Word
 - Connect in real Christian relationships
 - Fellowship regularly IN the church

Reflective Questions

Mirrors: The "I" in Sin

1. How has reading the Word of God shown you things about yourself you know you need to change?
2. Have you ever experienced feeling disconnected from God by sin, then repented and noticed the shift back to connection with Him?
3. In what ways do you think we 'minimize our sin'? And how do we correct that?
4. Who are the Christian relationships in your life that can act as a mirror for you, where you are able to be vulnerable without shame and judgement, yet challenged to holy living? If you don't have at least 1 person in your life, we encourage you to seek out a small group, where you can find such.