10/25/26 Message

Part of FollowJourney of Discipleship
October 24, 2026

Message: What is Sin

Series: Follow

Background

> *I'm approaching this series as if we are all in the same stage of our journey with Jesus, at the beginning. For some, this will be a review, but for most it will be a guide for what comes next. For all of us, if we'll let God work in and through us, we'll grow closer to Jesus and each other.*
>
> *—Pastor Chad*

Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)
19 "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

> *It's a circle of life with Jesus at the center. When you jump on the circle, it should be your goal to reach out and grab everyone you can and pull them on the circle with you. There's a lot more to it, but it's a great illustration. When you commit your life to Jesus and you commit to following Jesus, then you become His disciple. It's like being a student. You're only a student as long as you choose to be. That's the problem with this thing we call the spiritual journey. So many of us choose Jesus when we need Him, but when life is good, we forget all about Him. We stop being a student!*
>
> *—Pastor Chad*

- The spiritual journey is intended to be a LIFELONG commitment where you start and never stop.

Walking Toward or Walking Away

- You can't follow someone you are WALKING AWAY FROM – Sin BREAKS our relationship with God and only Jesus can RESTORE the relationship!

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

What is Sin

- Sin is more than WHAT I DO

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

- Sin is choosing MY WAY over God's way

Genesis 3:1-6 (NIV)
1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the
Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You
must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"
2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in
the garden,
3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the
middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"
4 "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman.
5 "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened,
and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and
pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took
some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with
her, and he ate it.

Luke 6:46

- Sin SEPARATES me from God

Romans 5:12 (NLT)
When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death,
so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.

John 14:6 (NLT)
Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

Isaiah 59:2 (NLT)
It’s your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore.

- Sin makes you a SLAVE

John 8:34 (NLT)
Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin.”

James 1:14-15 (NLT)
Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

- Sin has a PRICE we can’t pay

Romans 6:23 (NLT)
For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Sin must be CONFESSED not concealed

1 John 1:8-9 (NLT)
If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

Proverbs 28:13 (NLT)
People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.

Jesus Made a Way

> *Sin is our condition, our rebellion, our separation, our bondage, and our debt. But sin doesn’t have to end in a broken relationship with our creator, because our creator loves us so much, he made a way for us to be forgiven. Our creator loves us so much, he sent us a savior!*

—Pastor Chad

The first step is to stop pretending. To follow the Roman Road and agree with God, I am a sinner. Recognize my sins, just like God recognizes my sins. Acknowledge my sins. Align with God and repent of my sins. Ask God to forgive my sins and bring me into a life changing relationship with him. And then choose to follow Jesus each and every day of your life from this moment on.

—Pastor Chad