

# Jesus Teaches on Sin & Hell

September 8, 2024; Text: Mark 9:42-48

## Introduction:

**Big Idea:** Because Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ you, He has some insights into sin & hell that He is desperate for you to understand.

### #1-Your sin affects the \_\_\_\_\_ of others (42)

- Your individual choices, will affect others around you.
- “little ones who believe in me” – not just children but anyone who is spiritually immature
- “whoever causes to sin”- Skandalizō (stumble), It has the idea “*of leading someone else into sin’s trap*”
- **Ways I could guide another into sin’s trap [“cause to sin”]?**
  - Failure to take my own sin seriously** (Matthew 7:3-5)
  - Direct temptation** - Inviting someone to disobey God [Potiphar’s wife with Joseph -Genesis 39:7]
  - Indirect temptation** – Father’s provoking children to anger – Ephesian 6:4
  - Setting an example of sin**
  - Failure to stimulate others to righteousness** – Hebrews 10:24
- Understanding sin:
  - "Where sin, through the neglect of mortification, gets a considerable victory, it breaks the bones of the soul (Ps. 31:10; 51:8), and makes a man weak, sick, and ready to die (Ps. 38:3–5), so that he cannot look up (Ps. 40:12; Isa. 33:24); and when poor creatures will take blow after blow, wound after wound, foil after foil, and never rouse up themselves to a vigorous opposition, can they expect anything but to be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin, and that their souls should bleed to death (2 John 8)?" [John Owen, *Overcoming Sin and Temptation*]

### #2-Your sin puts into risk your eternity (43-48)

- Jesus is introducing a **RADICAL APPROACH** in dealing with sin.
- We need to be radical in our war against sin.
- Hell is the place of eternal suffering for those resolved to defiant disobedience.
- Understanding the doctrine of hell
  - The word "hell" in verse 47 translates the term gehenna, which was another name for the "valley of the son of Hinnom," the place near Jerusalem where many ancient Jews sacrificed children to the pagan god Molech (2 Kings 23:10). By the first century A.D., the place was seen as accursed because of that, and it was used as a figure for the eternal place of punishment after death, or hell. Jesus' use of the unquenchable fire in reference to this place (v. 48) borrows from the fact that in his day, the physical gehenna was a garbage dump where garbage never stopped burning. Jesus uses the physical reality to point to something much worse—unending pain in the afterlife for those who go to hell. (RC Sproul)
  - Baker’s Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology defines *hell* as the “Place of God's final retributive punishment. Scripture progressively develops this destiny of the wicked: the Old Testament outlines the framework, while the New Testament elaborates on it. Jesus, however, is most responsible for defining hell.”

- According to the Bible,
  - Hell is real (Mark 9:43) hell is where sinners are punished (Matthew 5:22)
  - Hell is conscious (Matthew 8:12)
  - Hell is a place of torment (Revelation 14:11)
  - Hell is eternal Mark 9:48, Daniel 12:2)
  - Hell was originally created for Satan and his angels (Matthew 25:41)
  - Hell is a just punishment for sin (Jude 1:7)
  - Be willing to take drastic measures in order to combat habitual sins.

#### Truth in Action:

- Remember tripping others up to sin **IS A BIG DEAL** to Jesus.
- Live life fully aware. Hell is not a myth to be dismissed but a reality that will continue **FOREVER**.
- **TREASURE** Jesus and the salvation that he died to make possible for you.

#### CONNECT CARD NEXT STEP:

#1- Short of amputation...what is something you need to cut out of your life or repent of, in order to follow Jesus?

#2-How can we help you and pray for you?

#### Pray first



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

#### Table Talk

**Warm Up: If you had to lose a body part which one would you choose?**

Read Mark 9:42-50

**What are some things we can learn about Jesus from verse 42?**

- How is He like a perfect Father here?

(a few ideas: protector, deep concern for his kids etc.)

- How have you seen a Christian cause someone else to sin or shipwreck their faith? What is Jesus' warning to a person who does this?

**If you were mentoring a new believer who thought they should amputate a body part for Jesus, how would you guide them towards a correct response? (vs. 43-48)**

- Why would cutting off a body parts not fix your sin problem? (It's not our body parts that cause us to sin) So where do sins originate? (In our hearts...Read Matt. 15:19)

**Does it make any difference in the way you think about Hell? Why or Why not?**

**Prayer:** Jesus remind me of your love as I deal with hard truth. Remind me to take sin and the reality of hell seriously for Your glory and for my own good. Amen.

**Resources:** <https://axis.org/resource/a-parent-guide-to-talking-about-hell>

G. Campbell Morgan, The Gospel of Mark; R. C. Sproul, The Gospel of Mark; Tim Keller, Christ the King; Life Application Bible Commentary, Mark; Jason Meyer, Mark for You; Gaebelain (Ed.), The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Mark