

I. What is Sin?

A. Sin is the _____ act of turning _____ from God and His will.

1. It is the transgression of God's law.
2. Sin is ultimately, against God himself: His holiness, love, and truth.
 - a) It's profoundly personal, because it is the turning away from God's expressed will (see Psalms 51:4; Isaiah 1:2)

B. Sin has effected _____ of humanity:

1. Romans 3:23 - "*...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*"
2. Romans 14:23 - "*...everything that does not come from faith is sin.*"

II. The Problem of Sin:

A. Sin is the _____ of spiritual growth

1. Believers need to be aware of the presence of sin and must learn how to resist it.

B. _____ is considered by man to be the '*Psalm of Maturity*'

1. Is an acrostic poem
 - a) Its 22 sections correspond with the Hebrew alphabet
 - b) Intended for memorization

C. Read Psalm 119:9-14

1. The psalmist asks, in verse 9, "*How can a young man keep his way pure?*"
 a) The application does not exclude old men & women, or young women.
 b) Psalm 119 intends to teach us how to keep our way pure and to provide a firm foundation for our entire life.
2. Psalm 119:9 says:

"How can a young man keep his way pure?

By guarding it according to your word."

- a) The psalmist seems to answer his own question, however a literal translation of the Hebrew suggests, the verse is a single question:
"By what [means] can a youth cleanse his path [so] as to keep [it] according to your word?" - Psalm 119:9
- b) Point: Verse 9 does not answer its own question, rather verse 9 is a single question which the entire Psalm 119 focuses on and attempts to answer.

3. A _____ question for all believers is, “*How can I keep my way pure?*”

- When considering his sin nature, St. Augustine wrote, ‘*I have become a puzzle to myself.*’ (Augustine of Hippo, *Confessions* 10.33,50)
- Apostle Paul wrote, “*What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?*” (Romans 7:24)

D. We must realize that the question in Psalm 119:9, reveals that the _____ has a deep _____ of sin.

- When discussing the power of Christ's atonement, Anselm Archbishop of Canterbury said, ‘*you have not yet considered the greatness of the weight of sin*’ (Anselm. *Cur Deus Homo*; 1013-1107 AD)
- If we do not see how _____ sin is, we will never see how _____ the work of Christ is.
 - There is a connection between our _____ of personal sinfulness, with our _____ and _____ of Jesus' work on the cross.

E. Two _____ challenges to overcoming personal sin:

- _____:
 - Christians, must expect and be prepared for opposition (cf 2 Timothy 3:1-5)
 - Opposition comes in many forms: personal sin, temptation, attacks from others, attacks from Satan (2 Corinthians 11:14), etc...
- The _____:
 - We are prone to _____ (see Psalm 119:10, 37)
 - A wandering _____ is directly connected to a wandering _____ (see Psalm 119:29; Jeremiah 17:7-10)
 - Psalm 51:10 - “*Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*”

F. Three keys to _____ our way pure:

- _____ pursuit:
 - Psalm 119:10 - “*With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!*”
 - Jeremiah 29:13 - “*You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.*”
 - Not merely a philosophical or intellectual searching
 - Sin brings halfheartedness into the , making us slothful and indifferent to the things of God

2. Gods Word

- a) God's word works in God's people by the power of God Spirit.
 - (1) John 17:17 - "*Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.*"
 - (2) Psalm 119:11 - "*I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.*"
- b) God's word:
 - (1) enables us to overcome indwelling sin
 - (2) illuminates our minds & ignites our affections
 - (3) helps us to bow our will to the will of God

3. in Gods ways

- a) Psalm 119:14 - "*In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.*"
- b) '*Testimonies*' of God speaks to what He has done and what He will do.

This weeks scripture reading:

Nov. 16 - Monday	Psalm 86 - 88	
Nov. 17 - Tuesday	Psalm 89	
Nov. 18 - Wednesday	Psalm 90 - 93	
Nov. 19 - Thursday	Psalm 94 - 96	
Nov. 20 - Friday	Psalm 97 - 98	
Nov. 21 - Saturday	Psalm 99 - 101	
Nov. 22 - Sunday	10:15a Worship Gathering	

When you journal remember SOAP:

Scripture - One verse that spoke to me. (write it out & its reference)

Observeration - General observations concerning my verse.

Application - What God might be saying to me, through this verse?

Prayer - My prayer, concerning the application of this verse (summarize it)

Please share with Pastor Jacob what God has been saying to you, teaching you, or a testimony that you may have during this season.

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ANSWER KEY:

I.

- A. personal..... away
- B. All

II.

- A. enemy
- B. Psalm 119
- C.
 - 3. vexing
- D. Psalmist sense
 - 2. serious wonderful
 - a. awareness realization ... wonder
- E. common
 - 1. Opposition
 - 2. Heart
 - a. wander
 - b. eye.....heart
- F. keeping
 - 1. Wholehearted
 - 2. Treasuring
 - 3. Rejoicing