



March 24-25, 2018
Four Spiritual Flaws: Flaw #4

MESSAGE NOTES

Exodus 32

- Flaw # 1 - Having a Consumer Mindset
- Flaw # 2 - Relying on Second-Hand Experience
- Flaw # 3 - Making Idols
- Flaw # 4 - Ignoring the Seriousness of Sin

Reactions after a moral lapse:

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Need after a moral lapse: (Exodus 32:20)

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Reference:

Open in prayer and read Exodus 32.

Review:

What was one thing from this weekend's message that challenged, confused, or stood out to you?

Reflect:

1. Do you think the church takes sin seriously enough? Explain.

2. Some claim that God in the Old Testament is mean and angry, in contrast to Jesus in the New Testament who is kind and loving. What do you think?

3. According to one writer, "Many Eastern religions teach that the source of salvation is found within, and that the fundamental human problem is not sin against a holy God but ignorance of our true [sinful] condition." Where do you agree with that statement? Where do you disagree with that statement?

4. The Israelites claimed that their sin was actually an act of worship to God (Exodus 32:2-6). How could they have been so wrong in their thinking? Like Israel, have you rationalized the sin in *your* life before?

5. Most people understand the personal nature of sin. Others say sin is also communal - in the sense that sin has permeated the structures and systems of a society, creating systemic injustice. What do you think about the idea of systemic sin? If you believe it exists, what does it mean to repent of it?

6. What does the horror of the cross of Christ communicate to you about the seriousness of sin, either personally or generally?

7. Moses' prayer for protection and forgiveness for his rebellious nation is known as intercessory prayer - pleading the case of another person. We know that Christ intercedes on our behalf (Romans 8:31-39). For whom can you be praying an intercessory prayer this week? Our country? Civic leaders? Friends? Family?

Respond/Reinforce:

Tim Keller writes: "Sin isn't only doing bad things; it's more fundamentally making good things into ultimate things. Sin is building your life and meaning on anything, even a very good thing, more than on God. Sin is primarily idolatry." Taking this into consideration, ask God where you might not be taking sin seriously and consider what He may be asking of you.