Why Do I Keep Sinning?

Greg Kline · Matthew 16:17–23

INTRODUCTION

- We can tear down the cobweb, but if that's all we do, the spider is still going to be there.
- Why do I keep struggling not just with sin? Why do I keep struggling with the same sorts of sin?
- Peter knew better. He had been told he would deny Jesus. And it happened anyway. Sin's grasp is real. It can happen to any of us and all of us.

1 Like Peter, We Don't Fully Embrace God's Plan

Matthew 16:21–23; Habakkuk 1; 1 Corinthians 10:13

- Peter either didn't understand or didn't want to embrace this plan in which Jesus, the Son of God, came into this life and would be allowed to be crucified because of lawless men.
- I don't always embrace God's plan myself either.
- We say, God, make a plan. God gives us a plan. We go, well, okay, make a different plan.
- Sometimes the way out of sin is never going into the moment. Sometimes it means not walking into the room, not confronting the issue, removing ourselves from the obstacles.

2 I Might Feel Defeated or Outnumbered

1 Kings 19:3–18; Matthew 7:13–14

- Yet I will leave 7,000 in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.
- He tells Elijah, you are not alone. I am with you, and there are others with you too.
- And the truth is we are outnumbered. But we're never going to be defeated.

3 We Sin Because It's Easier

Galatians 2:11–14

- We sin and we do it a lot because it's easier. It's hard to restrain yourself.
- It's difficult to do the right thing surrounded by people who are not only doing the wrong thing, but aiming for you in the process.
- I'm talking about every sin that ensnares and tempts each and every one of us.
- It's easy to get upset. It's easy to slander those who have slandered you. It's easy to lie to those who would lie about you.

4 Recognize the Cost of Sin and the Weight of Salvation

Romans 3:21–26

- And the first way is to recognize the cost of sin and the weight of salvation.

- Justified by his grace as a gift through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood to be received by faith.
- My sin is not a problem that just I face. My sin is a problem that crucified Jesus to the cross.
- What's the cost of sin? Hell is the cost of unrepentant sin.

5 We Have to Know We're Never Alone

Galatians 6:1–2; Galatians 6:7–10

- We should bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.
- So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, especially to those who are of the household of faith.
- And if you're struggling and you feel alone, please reach out. Picking someone up is a two way street.
- Not only are we not alone because God is faithful and always with us, but we will never be alone.

6 We Need to Always Think of Others

John 13:31–35

- And finally, let's close with John chapter 13, what Jesus says, we need to always think of others.
- A new commandment I give you that you love one another. Just as I have loved you are also to love one another.
- You know how I can start cutting out sin? You know how I can begin the narrow pathway? I'm going to fill my life with righteousness.
- My mind is so preoccupied with building up, encouraging, and loving, that there's no room, place, or time for any discouragement or sin of any kind.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **If you are a Christian this morning and you've erred like I do or like Peter has, recognize forgiveness is possible too. God is faithful.**

MY NOTES