

DISCUSSION GUIDE

A PRACTICAL REASON TO STOP SINNING
The Gospel of John — Week 18

ICEBREAKER: What dream has come true for you?

OVERVIEW: Sin is a confusing subject today because in our culture the only sin is calling someone a sinner. To try to lessen the stigma of sin, we've changed the names of many sins. Adultery is having an "affair." Homosexuality is having a "same-sex relationship." People no longer sin, they make mistakes, or they have a mental illness, or they are driven to sin by external pressures rather than internal evil. It is no longer sin, but a complex, an addiction, a dependency, a chemical imbalance, an obsession, a phobia, a disease, a quirk, an indiscretion, etc. But the Bible says that sin is very real, and if we do not take it seriously, sin will destroy our lives. In this discussion we will go deeper with the idea of avoiding sin.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Read John 5:14. Why did Jesus say that if the man kept sinning something worse would happen to him?
3. Read Genesis 3:1-24. What lessons does this story teach about sin? What are the consequences of sin in this story?
4. What are the dangers of living in sin?

5. How has sin hurt you?
6. From your experience, what have you learned about turning away from and avoiding sin?
7. What hinders us from turning away from sin?
8. 1 John 1:9. What should we do when we sin against God? What does it mean to confess our sins?
9. Read Romans 5:8. What has God done about our sin?

The Last Word: "Forbidden fruits create many jams."