

# THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SIN AND SINNING

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(1st John 3:6-9)

Committing a sin is **NOT** the same thing as living a life of sin. Romans 6:23 teaches us that **ALL** have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Everyone has committed a sin. However, it is the children of God who have decided **NOT** to turn that sin into a pattern of iniquity. Jesus died on the cross so we can be forgiven from our sins. He did **NOT** die so we can be justified for a living a sinful lifestyle.

When **YOU DECIDE** to live a sinful lifestyle you are choosing to dishonor the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The purpose of Jesus death was to deliver you from the demonic power of sin. When you choose to re-connect yourself with the bondage He originally delivered you from it is the ultimate display of disrespect.

# DO GOD'S CHILDREN FALL INTO SIN?

God's children fall into sin. However, they **DO NOT** live in sin. God's children make mistakes. They say hurtful words to other people. They do not obey every command in the Bible.

They make decisions based on their emotions. They submit to the temptations of the enemy from time to time. However, the **DIFFERENCE** between the children of God and everyone else is that they are **NOT CONTENT** with sinning.

God's children fall into sin. However, they **GET BACK UP** on the platform of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**. Proverbs 24:16 says, "*For though the righteous fall seven times, they **RISE AGAIN**, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes.*"

God's children do not make excuses for falling into sin. They do not justify why they sinned. They ask God to

**FORGIVE** them of their sin. They make every effort not to fall into the same sin again. God's children **UNDERSTAND** the sacrifice Jesus made. They do their best to honor His sacrifice.

## HOW OFTEN DO YOU ASK GOD FOR FORGIVENESS?

You will be surprised at how many people **DO NOT** ask God for forgiveness when they sin. The reason people do not ask God for forgiveness is because they do **NOT** feel the weight of conviction. **CONVICTION BREEDS FORGIVENESS!** People do not ask for forgiveness for something they believe is right.

If you are unsure you have embraced sinning as a lifestyle, ask yourself this question. Have I asked God for forgiveness in regards to the sins I commit daily? If the answer to this question is no, you have adopted a lifestyle of iniquity. The difference between the children of God and the world is very clear. The children of God ask for

forgiveness after **EVERY** sin they commit. The world **IGNORES** every sin they commit.

## IS IT YOU?

1st John 3:6-9

Committing a sin and **SINNING** have two different connotations behind them. When a person is sinning they are committing a **CONTINUOUS** transgression against God. They have decided to adopt these transgressions and pattern them into a lifestyle. The people who have decided to govern their life under the constitution of sin never knew and understood the character of Christ.

When a person knows and understands the character of Christ they will **NOT** adopt a lifestyle of sin. 1st John 3:6 says, "*So **ANYONE** who lives in Christ does not go on sinning. Anyone who goes on sinning has never really understood Christ and has never known him.*" The scripture does not exclude church people. It **INCLUDES** them. It

does not matter if you are a musician, preacher, church worker or congregant. If you engage in a **LIFESTYLE** of sin you have **NO** revelation of who Christ is.

The Bible calls these people children of the devil. These people have decided to break the covenant of redemption by living a lifestyle of sin. Living a lifestyle of sin establishes a covenant with Satan. 1st John 3:8 says, *"The devil has been sinning since the beginning, so anyone who **CONTINUES** to sin **BELONGS** to the devil. The Son of God came for this purpose: to destroy the devil's work."*

## HERE ARE FIVE WAYS TO IDENTIFY IF YOU HAVE ADOPTED THE LIFESTYLE OF SINNING:

- People who are sinning are **NEVER CONVICTED** of it.
- People who are sinning **CANNOT FEEL** the weight of sin.

- People who are sinning **DO NOT ASK GOD** for forgiveness.
- People who are sinning **JUSTIFY** why they are sinning.
- People who are sinning **DO NOT REPENT** of their sins, they repeat them.

Does God's light shine in you or does the devil's darkness reign in you? There is a huge difference between sin and sinning.

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