

MESSAGE NOTES**03.15.26****LENTEN SERIES: "OUR BATTLE WITH SIN"****MESSAGE: "THE SERIOUSNESS OF SIN"**

1. We all share an _____ corrupt nature
 → We call this _____ sin
"The Lord observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil." GE 6:5
"For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me." PS 51:5
2. Apart from Christ, our tendency is to _____ sinning
"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard." RO 3:23
 → Wesley described this as our _____ to sin
"All people, whether Jews or Gentiles, are under the power of sin." RO 3:9
"If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth." 1 JN 1:8
3. We bear our own _____ for sin
"Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God." RO 14:12
 → By holding individuals _____ for their own sins, God demonstrates His fairness and righteousness
"By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life." 2 PE 1:3
4. There is no such thing as a _____ sin
"Sin is cosmic treason. Sin is treason against a perfectly pure Sovereign. It is an act of supreme ingratitude toward the One to whom we owe everything, to the One who has given us life itself. . . The slightest sin is an act of defiance against cosmic authority. . . It is an insult to His holiness." R.C. SPROUL

"Don't you realize that this sin is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough?" 1 CO 5:6

5. The Bible uses strong imagery to make an important point: _____ should get in the way of our relationship with God or our following of Jesus
"If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It's better to enter eternal life with only one hand or one foot than to be thrown into eternal fire with both of your hands and feet. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It's better to enter eternal life with only one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell." MT 18:8-9 (MT 5:19-20)
 → Two Bad Interpretations
 - (1) _____ take it literally
 - (2) _____ mutilate your body
 → Jesus is using a literary technique called _____
 → The _____ of the matter is a matter of the _____
"Anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart." MT 5:28
 → The _____ is what is important here, not the _____
 - (1) We must do everything possible to _____ sin
 - (2) The true _____ of sin go all the way to the heart
 → It is with the _____ that Jesus insists we must deal, not the body alone
"You are defiled by what comes from your heart." MK 7:15
- THE FIX = _____**
- "And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart."* EZ 36:26
- "Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"* 2 CO 5:17

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