

Text: 2 Samuel 21:1-14
Topic: Sin
Series: Book of 2 Samuel

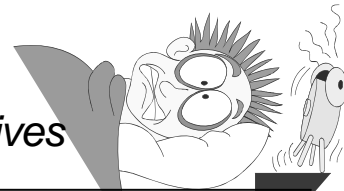
Focal Point Radio Ministries

May 20 & 21, 2000

Pastor Mike

REALLY
Sin is Bad

A Wake Up Call to Deal with the Dirt in Our Lives



1. Never _____ (vv.1-2)

2. Make _____ (vv.3-9)

3. Get _____ (vv.10-14)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.

1. Though God is a God who vigorously pursues the redemption and salvation of sinful people, his repulsion toward sin is absolute. Read the context of the Genesis flood found in Genesis 6:5-13. How does that passage heighten your sobriety regarding your own struggle with sin?

Read Habakkuk 1:13 and 3:16. There are at least two ways to interpret God's delayed response to people's sin (whether judgment toward non-Christians or the chastisement of his kids). Some interpret the lack of immediate reprisals as an indicator that God is really not seriously offended. Others, like Habakkuk, are convinced he is, but are amazed at his seemingly boundless restraint and patience. Give an example of when his delayed response led you to the first conclusion.

If you find yourself minimizing the seriousness of sin in your life, you might benefit from the old Puritan classic, The Sinfulness of Sin, by Ralph Venning (Banner of Truth, 1997), originally written over 300 years ago but as timely as this week's sermon.

2. Describe a time in your life when God used a "famine" of sorts to get you to face up to a sin that you had minimized.

Are there currently any difficulties in your life that might be directed by God as a way of getting you to notice and deal with a sin you have been overlooking?

3. Though the cross, once and for all, satisfied God's justice and removed the Christian's actual guilt, there are still reparations that must often be made to the people we have sinned against. Are there any outstanding amends that need to be made to someone you have wronged, lied to, or in some way mistreated?
4. Often sin and guilt do twice the damage in our lives because once the sinful act has been adequately dealt with before God and man, we often refuse to let it go. How can dwelling on past sins and failures become counterproductive in your Christian life?

Read through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule. Don't worry about catching up, just jump in.

Sunday

1Chr.22-23 & Col.3-4

Monday

1Chr.24-25 & 1Th.1-2

Tuesday

1Chr.26-27 & 1Th.3-4

Wednesday

1Chr.28-29 & 1Th.5

Thursday

2Chr.1-3 & 2Th.1-2

Friday

2Chr.4-6 & 2Th.3

Saturday

2Chr.7-9 & 1Tim.1-2