

# ***Basic Discipleship***

## ***A Course On New Testament Discipleship***

***Topic #2***

## ***EXPERIENCING FORGIVENESS & FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD***

***Objectives:*** As a result of the study of this topic we want to be able:

- 1. To understand the doctrine of sin as it relates to actions, attitudes and doubtful things.**
- 2. To be able to relate four governing principles to what is sometimes referred to as “gray areas” or as a “disputable matters.”**
- 3. To recognize three forces that wage war against the true child of God.**
- 4. To distinguish between positional and experiential forgiveness.**
- 5. To recognize the importance of confession in keeping our lives clear and clean before God.**
- 6. To discern the difference between real guilt and false guilt.**
- 7. To memorize two verses of Scripture that will help the Christian to consistently walk in fellowship with God.**

### ***Introduction***

#### ***I. The Doctrine of Sin***

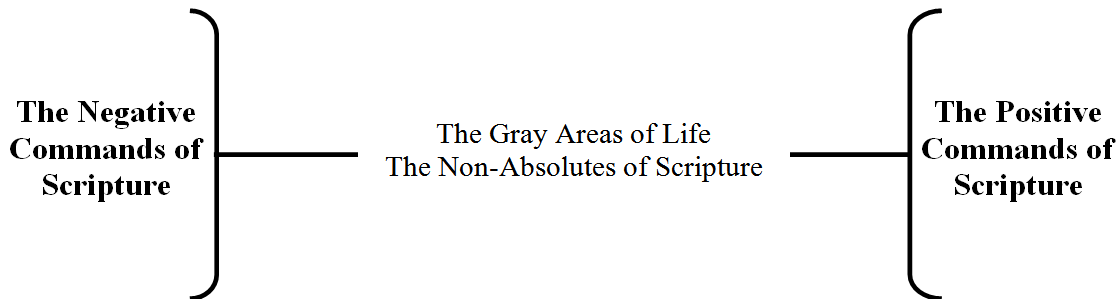
***In a day when people think truth is relative or cannot be discovered at all, their tendency is to describe sin as psychological maladjustments, errors in judgment, or as glandular mal functions. So, it is important that we can define sin biblically.***

##### **A. Sin defined**

- 1. Sin is a failure to do what is right (James 4:17).**
- 2. Sin is a transgression of God’s law (1 John 3:4; Ephesians 2:1).**
- 3. Sin is falling short of what we should have done (Romans 3:23).**

## **B. Sin described**

- 1. Sin is most often described in terms of our actions (1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21).**
- 2. Sin is sometimes described in terms of attitudes (Matthew 5:27, 28; 1 John 3:15).**
- 3. Every sin is not delineated in Scripture, but God gives us principles to discern whether something is sinful are clearly spelled out.**



- a. We are not to do anything that might cause another brother to stumble (Romans 14:13, 21; 1 Corinthians 8:13).**
  - b. Whatever cannot be done in faith from a clear conscience, it is sin (Romans 14:23; 1 John 3:21; Hebrews 11:6a).**
  - c. Whatever cannot be done to glorify God is sin (1 Corinthians 10:31).**
  - d. Whatever appears to be evil by choices we make lessens our testimony for God & therefore is sin (1 Thessalonians 5:22).**
- C. Sin is judged in the unbeliever (Ephesians 2:1-3; John 3:36; Matthew 25:46; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10).**
- D. Sin is disciplined in the believer (Hebrews 12:4-11).**
- 1. Ananias and Sapphira were disciplined by God (Acts 5:1-11).**
  - 2. The Corinthians were disciplined by God (1 Corinthians 11:30).**

## ***II. The Doctrine of Temptation***

***There are three forces that incessantly wage war against the Christian - - the world, the flesh, and the devil. Understanding how these forces can function independently or in conjunction with each other, is important in overcoming temptation.***

### **A. Three forces wage war against the believer.**

- 1. The world system counters God's ways (Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 Corinthians 4:4; John 16:33).**

***The solution is not to love the world (1 John 2:15-17).***

- 2. The flesh, our fallen sinful nature remains in opposition to our new nature given at our second birth (Galatians 5:17; Romans 7:18-21).**

***The solution is to make no provision for the flesh and to walk in the power of the Spirit (Romans 13:14; Galatians 5:17; Ephesians 5:18; Romans 8:2).***

- 3. The devil wages war against the Christian (1 Peter 5:7, 8).**

***The solution is to respect him because he is dangerous (1 Peter 5:8), we are to recognize him because he is a great pretender (2 Corinthians 11:13-15; John 8:44;), and we are to resist him (James 4:8-10) using our divinely inspired weapons (Ephesians 6:11-18; Matthew 4:1-11) because the victory is ours (1 John 4:4).***

### **B. God's promises concerning temptation.**

- 1. There is no temptation that is unique to you (1 Peter 5:9).**
- 2. There is no temptation beyond your ability to resist (1 Corinthians 10:12, 13).**
- 3. There is no temptation that Christ Himself does not understand and that He cannot help us with (Hebrews 4:15, 16; 7:25).**