Sidetracked: Victory Over Sin Jonathan Cleveland January 14, 2024

Reflection & Discussion Questions

All of us at times get sidetracked about sin

When we trust Jesus, there are two parts of us at war on the inside.

*Does this inner war resonate with your experience of sin? *Do you agree that most of us tend to look at sin in an overly simplistic way? Why or why not?

What is sin?

Read and discuss Romans 3:23 (NIV) ²³ For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Read and discuss Romans 14:23(NIV) ²³...and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

*What would your definition of the word 'sin' be?

*What do these verses tell us about sin?

*What is the difference between sin and morality? How does this difference trip us up?

Sin always begins with us believing lies about ourselves and God

Read and discuss Luke 4:3-11 (NIV)

³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone."

⁵ The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ If you worship me, it will all be yours."

⁸ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.""

⁹ The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰ For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you

to guard you carefully;

" they will lift you up in their hands,

so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.""

*What lies about self and God do you see the enemy using here? *How have you seen him use these tactics to keep you off the narrow path?

We can TRY or we can TRUST

The only solution that works for sin is God's brilliant plan of faith and trust in Christ.

*When have you addressed sin with trying, effort, and motivation? What was the outcome?

*How does understanding things like abide, trust, remain and dependance connect to victory over sin?

*What does a fuller conversation with God about your sin look like? Could you ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the what and the why of your sin?