

This Week

Churchwide
Worship Services Sunday, 9:00–10:15 AM or 10:30–11:45 AM
Bible Fellowships Sunday, 9:00–10:15 AM or 10:30–11:45 AM
GriefShare Sunday, 9:00–10:15 AM in the Library
Small Groups
Community Groups Sunday, 5:30–7:30 PM in various homes
Adult Studies
The Book of Matthew Wednesday, 6:30–7:30 AM in the Dining Room
The Feast Days of Israel Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM in the Tejas Room
What Did You Expect? Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM in Room 209
Men
Men’s Breakfast Tuesday, 6:30–7:30 AM in the Gymnatorium
Samson Society Thursday, 7:00–8:30 PM in the Library
Friday Morning Study Friday, 6:30–7:30 AM in the Tejas Room
Women
Engage: Understanding Purpose Monday, 6:30–8:00 PM in Room 209
The Armor of God Tuesday, 10:00–11:30 AM or 6:30–8:00 PM in Room 208
Understanding and Helping People Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM in the Mesquite Room
MOMs Study: Calm My Anxious Heart Thursday, 10:00–11:30 AM in Room 208

Senior Adults
Tuesday Afternoon Study Tuesday, 1:00–2:00 PM in Room 111
College & Career
Late Night Tuesday, 7:00–8:30 PM at the G.Y.M.
Senior High
Senior High Youth Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM at the G.Y.M.
Junior High
Foundations Study Tuesday, 6:30–7:30 PM at 2921 Moffett
Junior High Youth Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM at the G.Y.M.
Faith Mission Friday, 7:00–8:30 PM
5th & 6th Grade
Roller Plex Wednesday, 6:15–8:15 PM at The Plex
Children
Kids’ Quest Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM in the Children’s Area

This Morning

Lesson 7: Discerning the Children of God—*1 John 3:4–10a*
Reggie Coe, Family Pastor

The one who abides in Christ demonstrates Christ’s righteous behavior and the one who sins demonstrates the character of the devil.

- I. The one who sins commits iniquity, which is the opposite of the purity that characterizes Christ—*1 John 3:4*; see 3:3.
- II. Christ came to eradicate sin and there can be no sin in Him—*1 John 3:5*.
- III. The one who abides in Christ does not sin—*1 John 3:6a*.
- IV. The one who sins evidences an ignorance of Christ and spiritual blindness to who Christ is—*1 John 3:6b*.
- V. Christians are not to be led astray but to understand that the one who abides in Him does the righteous actions that show forth Christ’s character—*1 John 3:7*.
- VI. Sin does not come from abiding in Christ but from the devil who first sinned—*1 John 3:8a*.

• All sin is satanic in nature.

• The devil sinned from the beginning—see John 8:44.
- VII. Christ’s purpose in coming focuses on destroying the devil’s activity—*1 John 3:8b*.
- VIII. The new nature that God has given believers has no capacity to sin, and sin does not come from our new nature or from abiding in Him—*1 John 3:9*.

• While Christians can (and do) sin, it never arises out of our new nature and our abiding relationship with Christ—see 1 John 1:8; Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10.
- IX. The clear distinguishing reality between the child of God and the child of the devil is found in the righteous conduct of the child of God—*1 John 3:10a*.

Discussion

These questions are offered each week to facilitate further discussion of this morning’s topic in small group settings such as Community Groups or over dinner with family and friends. We hope you find them helpful to your spiritual growth.

1. What does it mean that Christ came to take away our sins? How will the world be different once He fully deals with sin?
2. How does abiding in Christ prevent a person from sinning?
3. How can sin in someone’s life expose his or her lack of intimately knowing Christ? How can sin reveal spiritual blindness?
4. What is the origin of righteousness? What is the origin of sin? Interact with this statement: sin never arises from abiding in Christ.
5. What will Christ ultimately do about the devil and his activity? What hope does that give you?
6. We have a new nature that is born of God. The new nature cannot sin but we still do (see 1 John 1:8–10). How does abiding in Christ empower us to live in light of our new nature?