

## News Story Summary

LifeWay Research recently conducted a survey, asking people about sin. When asked the question “which of the following best describes you?”

- 34% say, “I am a sinner, and I work on being less of one.”
- 28% say “I am a sinner, and I depend on Jesus Christ to overcome sin.”
- 10% say “Sin does not exist.”
- 8% say “I am not a sinner.”
- 5% say “I am a sinner, and I am fine with that.”
- 15% say “I prefer not to say.”

Here are some more findings from the survey:

- 32% of “Nones” (those people with no religious preference) are more likely to say sin does not exist.
- Americans 18 to 44 years old are twice as likely to say sin does not exist as Americans ages 45 years and older (14% vs. 7%).

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the term “Americans admit they are sinners”.)

## Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, begin by sharing the survey results. Emphasize the amount of Americans who think that sin does not exist or that they do not sin. Call attention to the paragraph in the Personal Study Guide or Daily Discipleship Guide that introduces the session and lead the group to discuss the questions: *Why do many people have a difficult time coming to terms with their sinfulness? Do you think people today have a more lax view of sin than people one hundred years ago? Explain.*

## Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge idea, focus attention again on the survey on sin. Remind the group that 10% of people say that sin doesn’t exist, 8% say that they are not sinners, and 15% prefer not to say anything. Then follow the Discuss idea under Summarize and Challenge, leading the group to discuss these questions: *What obstacles keep people from seeing their need for a Savior? What could you say or do to help someone who is carrying the guilt of sin as a heavy burden?*