

How to Stop Sinning

Continued from Page 3

that road of sin. Bible reading nips sin in the bud. It can stop sin in its tracks.

Daily conviction of sin also builds character and standards. Standards and decisions can keep one from doing the wrong thing. There are many people that never would steal. Why? Because they purposed in their heart that they would never do that sin, no matter what the circumstances. It is their character that helps keep them straight and helps them stop the problem at conception. There is no better magnifying glass to look at one's sinful conditions than daily Bible reading.

No one is exempt from sin. All are sinners; even those that are forgiven. There is no such thing as being without sin; as some would have us believe. If folks claim not to have sinned, God's Word says they are making God a liar, because He says we are sinners (1 John 1:10). It is a battle to keep out of sin's devastating grasp, but God's principles can make it possible. No one has a license to sin. Its temptation has to be fought. Some of the weak have given in to its grasp. God hates sin, and although he knows our frailties, we can still keep out of its continual grasp or control.

Why Have The ...

Continued from Page 1

nately it doesn't work that way. Folks many times are too intimidated or afraid to even start reading God's Word. Sometimes leaving some interesting, or inspiring literature with them will encourage them to read the Bible.



How to Stop Sinning
As a young man, I certainly know what sin was. One day, after being so angry about the trouble my sin had gotten me into, I decided that I would not sin any more. The decision was made even though I was restricted to my room and all alone, I remember being even more frustrated as I had sinned again. At that young age, I learned that it was impossible to not sin. Years later, after being saved, I learned why we sin. It's our nature. We're born sinners, and we will die sinners. Fortunately, we can be saved from the price of sin in hell, if we trust that Christ died as payment for our sin. We can have our sin forgiven and paid for by His act of love for us on the cross. Even after salvation, we will still sin. We will still sin not because Christ's death was not payment



That is the purpose of many tracts and this little paper. Many other people have also realized the importance of leaving behind some type of Christian influence. Some have left this paper in the foyer of their churches, with those they visited on their bus routes, in doctors' offices, in laundry rooms, and even mailed them weekly to people for whom they have burdens.

Most Americans are bombarded with the world's unbiblical teaching all day long. They have it forced onto them daily from the television, school, newspapers, and other media. They are brainwashed with humanistic teaching. Something should point them to God and His Word. A tract, or even The Bible View, can help point them in the right direction.

Because of lack of Biblical teaching, even in many churches, many do not have a clue how God wants them to live, or what His teachings are. The purpose of this paper is to give them some knowledge of God's Word. Hopefully, when they have this knowledge they will seek His will, and obey it. If we don't tell them about God and what His Word says, who will?

Sin and dandelions are a whole lot alike. They're a lifetime fight that you never quite win.
- White

The Bible View

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By Bill Brinkworth

As a young man, I certainly knew what sin was. One day, after being so angry about the trouble my sin had gotten me into, I decided that I would not sin any more. The decision was made about noon, and by supper time, even though I was restricted to my room and all alone, I remember being even more frustrated as I had sinned again. At that young age, I learned that it was impossible to not sin.

Years later, after being saved, I learned why we sin. It's our nature. We're born sinners, and we will die sinners. Fortunately, we can be saved from the price of sin in hell, if we trust that Christ died as payment for our sin. We can have our sin forgiven and paid for by His act of love for us on the cross. Even after salvation, we will still sin. We will still sin not because Christ's death was not payment

Continued on Page 2

Why Have The Bible View?

By Bill Brinkworth

The Bible View has been printed for over 12 years in one form or another. Let me share why I have produced it.

It dawned on me that many from the church visit people in homes, hospitals, and prisons. When we visit, we are not always leaving behind something for the visitee to spiritually grow on. Something should be left behind that will help them know more about the Father and His word.

The Jehovah Witnesses, Mormons and others that visit, don't have the truth from the Word of God; yet when they leave, part of their teaching remains with the person they visited. Why are the Bible-believers not leaving something behind? They have the truth, and it is the only thing that will truly change lives. Something should be left with those visited.

It would be nice if we could leave the Bible with the people we have visited, and trust that they would read it. Unfortu-

Continued on Page 4



How to Stop Sinning

Continued from Page 1

enough for all our wickednesses, but because while we may be saved on the inside, we still have the same sinful flesh with which we were born. Our spirit wants to obey, but our flesh still wants to sin.

We cannot completely stop sinning, but we can limit what sins we continue to do. One of the Bible's admonitions in limiting our sin is to "confess our sins." God, of course, knows of our sin. There is nothing that is hidden from His eyes. When we humble ourselves by admitting the deed to Him, He recognizes that we know of our guilt and are repentant. God will then forgive us. Most of the time a truly repentant heart carries with it the desire not to do it again. By confessing to God, we not only get His forgiveness, but it also is more likely that we won't want to sin again.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

I remember learning the burn-your-bridges-behind-you principle from my mom. The phrase comes from a military situation. Soldiers from the past would burn the bridges of escape behind them. When the battle raged fiercely, they had no alternate route of escape; only to fight and go forward to victory. Confessing your sin to God helps burn one of those bridges; so you cannot go back to the old, wrong ways.

The early church was also taught that don't-make-it-easy-for-yourself-to-sin principle by James. The disciple taught them to

tell others about their sin; not that the other person can forgive that sin, because they can not. Only Christ can forgive sin, because only He paid the price. James gave them the advice because God showed him that when we admit to another our wrong-doing, embarrassment from doing it again, many times will keep us from doing it again. Public confession is certainly difficult and humbling, but it burns a bridge to help us to restrict our sin. When others know about our weakness, they also have the opportunity to pray for us to help keep us from that sin. We need all the help we can get in this sinful world.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16

We are all sinners. If our character does not bridle our sinful nature, it will gallop down the road of sin. To keep it from going down the wrong course, keep from mounting the horse! Don't even think of the sin!

Once the wickedness is thought of, it goes down hill from there. That is why the world's philosophy about teaching children about sex and drugs in the public schools will never stop their fornication and drug taking. It will, and has, only increased it. Speaking about sin puts it in the forefront of the mind where it can be meditated on, and the temptation can be acted on. God commands us not even to talk about sin.

"For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret." Ephesians 5:12

It is certainly easy to say don't think about it, but it certainly is more difficult when the wrong thought is in the mind's forefront. How do you get the thought out of the mind, so it can not turn into action? The key is to attend to it immediately. The split second we have the thought is the time to switch subjects. God's Word says think on good righteous things. It's hard to think of wickedness, when you're thinking about the things of God.

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Philippians 4:8

When the things of God enter the mind's room, the desire to sin leaves. Scripture is referred to as "light". Light and darkness (sin) cannot dwell together. When the wrong thoughts or actions come, immediately flood them out with memorized verses. It would be edifying to quote a verse about the sin to chase away its memory. Quoting, "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes..." (Psalm 101:3) a few times will chase that temptation you absorbed when watching a wrong TV program. When a man's roaming eyes get out of control, remembering, "... That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart," (Matthew

5:28) can help get the wrong, sinful thoughts out of harm's way.

For this to work, you have to have the words of God already in the mind; so the Holy Spirit can help you remember them when they're needed. That is why Bible memorization is so important.

If you don't know a related verse, any scripture will also chase out sin's darkness. There have been times I could not think of a pertinent verse to chase out the temptation and could only quote John 3:16. The thoughts did change. Sin and pure things cannot dwell together.

Reading scripture is one of the most important sin deterrents. As you read daily, different verses will expose sin. Sometimes they will get you to realize you have a problem in an area where you did not even realize you had problem. Daily examination of weaknesses is a good preventative against the "big" sins. Most out-of-control problems are usually arrived at by small sinful steps. No criminal woke up one morning and robbed a bank without having paved the way with smaller, sinful steps. Perhaps his big robbery started when he stole answers for a third grade test; or when he took a toy that did not belong to him. One sin leads to another. If he read his Bible daily, God would have convicted him about cheating on the test, and he would never have gone any farther down

Continued on Page 4

*I'ē the devil know's
we'll use an excuse,
he'll give us one.*