



WEST HIGHLAND

BAPTIST CHURCH

Facilitators' Guide for Community Groups

Saying Goodbye to Sin

Col. 3:5-11

April 7

1. Welcome (an ice-breaker discussion to get everyone comfortable with sharing):

What is your favorite type of food or cuisine? Do you have a specialty that you cook/bake? Maybe have your next social planned around sharing some of your delights.

2. Worship (to draw our hearts to the Lord and invite Him into our discussion):

Musical worship helps us focus our eyes on God. Sing together "Be Thou My Vision"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zqOB_XzuQWs

Dozens of other worship songs are also available at

www.westhighland.org/smallgroupsongs.

3. Word (to consider how the sermon applies to our lives, and to live out the "one anothers"):

Read together: Colossians 3:5-11

Sermon Summary

The battle to stop sinning doesn't end at our salvation—in fact it just begins. Serious Christians are called by Paul to take up arms in the ongoing battle of obedience/disobedience, seduction of sin, and a lack of spiritual fullness day to day. Choosing righteousness over sin is a conscious and intentional priority of all serious Christians—the power sin had over you has been defeated at Calvary and through the gift of God's Spirit, but not the possibility of sinning. It is to that possibility that we must exercise ruthless resistance.

Sermon Questions

GETTING STARTED

What is sin? How would you define it? How would you identify it in your life or that of another? Does it really matter whether or not we sin?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What is your general understanding of the relationship between sin and the Christian—specifically, what are the differences between a Christian and non-Christian regarding sin?

2. How do you “put to death” whatever belongs to your earthly body?
3. What makes sins of anger so particularly troubling? According to the Col. 3 description of things, is it OK to let it rip now and then? Using the clothes picture in this text (put off, put on) what do you think and why?
4. What makes it, not only possible, but necessary for Christians to abandon racism within the family of God? Are ethnic-only churches a problem? Why or why not? Under what circumstances are such communities appropriate for Christians? When might it become inappropriate?
5. What do you think is the key practice takeaway to experience victory over “earthly nature” struggles?

4. Witness (joining Jesus in his mission):

Spend some time in prayer that God would give you a passion for those who don't know Jesus. Pray for boldness tempered by love to take the initiative to share the gospel with those in your sphere of influence.