





COMMUNITY GUIDE

February 25, 2024

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WEEKLY APPLICATION

TAKEAWAY: It is only by endeavoring to look sin straight in the face that we are able to understand grace.

HEAD CHANGE: Engaging culture with the full weight of sin doesn't need to be embarrassing, it is necessary.

HEART CHANGE: Nothing that we despise in others is entirely absent from ourselves.

LIFE CHANGE: A healthy and proper understanding of sin leads to our deep need for our Savior.

OVERVIEW

The Sacred Overlap: Learning To Live Faithfully In The Space Between

"There is a mean, violet streak in the true Christian life. But violence against whom, or what? Not other people. It's violence against all the impulses in us that would be violent to other people. It's a violence against all the impulses in our own selves that would make peace with our own sin and settle in with a peacetime mentality. It's violence against all lust in ourselves, and enslaving desires for food or alcohol or pornography or money or the praise of men and the approval of others or power or fame. It's violence against the impulses in our own soul towards racism and sluggish indifference to injustice and poverty and abortion. Christianity is not a settle-n-and-live-at-peace-with-this-world-the-way-it-is kind of religion. Christianity is war – on our own sinful impulses."

– John Piper

"For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live."

Romans 8:13

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you in this teaching? Why do you think that resonated?
2. What stirs your affections for Jesus and the things of God? How can you lean into this?
3. What stifles your affections for the things of God? How can you practically remove these from your life?
4. What comes to mind with the phrase, "sin is a unifier to humanity"? How does that make you feel?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Father, we cannot do any of this without You. Thank You for revealing the finished work of Jesus to us. May we live with a greater understanding of your grace and approval on our lives because of what Jesus has done. If there are any areas of our lives that are captured by pride, reveal that to me now. I repent and ask for your humility to walk with you and obey you in response to your love and grace toward me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

IN THIS TOGETHER!