



MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Can Christians Keep on Sinning?

Bible Reading: 1 John 3:3-10

1 John 3:3-10

3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. 4 Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 5 You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. 6 No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. 8 Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. 9 No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. 10 By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. (ESV)

The tension of believers sinning or not sinning

- A. "Do not sin" verses in CSB and some other translations 1 John 3:6, 8,9; 5:18
- B. Apparent contradiction with 1 John 1:8-9; 2:1
- C. Other translations try to solve the tension
- D. Sin is lawlessness
 1. Should be understood as without law instead of breaking the law
 2. It is rebellion against God's authority

The contrast between children of God and children of the devil 3:6-10

- A. Children of God
- B. They abide/remain in Christ 3:6
- C. Children of God are born of God 3:9

1. Paul's emphasis is on adoption Eph. 1:5; Rom 8:15
 2. John's emphasis is we are born of God John 1:12-13; 3:3; 1 John 3:9
- D. The seed abides in them 1 John 3:9
- E. Do not make a practice of committing sin 3:9b
- F. They have the life within that confesses sin and desires to continue in righteousness 1 John 3:3
- G. Children of the devil 3:8,10
- H. They make a practice of sinning
- I. The devil has been sinning from the beginning
 - J. They do not practice righteousness
 - K. They lead others astray

Jesus Christ came

- A. To take away sin 3:5
- B. To destroy the works of the devil 3:8b
- C. He is without sin

Conclusion

- A. On God's side:
- B. On our side: