

Adult Group Study Guide for September 20, 2020

Series: *Foundation*; Message: *Sin*

Goal: To grow in our knowledge of sin and its impact on our lives.

Key Verses: *This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. – Romans 3:22-24 (NIV2011)*

1. The title of this series of messages is “Foundation.” What purpose does the foundation of a building serve? Read the parable in Matthew 7:24-27. What serves as a foundation for our faith? How can we build on that foundation? (1 Corinthians 3:10-15)
2. One of the foundations of our faith is our understanding of the nature of sin. Read Romans 1:18-25. How do these verses describe sin? What is the danger of believing that evil is “out there” instead of being present in every human heart? (James 1:13-15; Romans 3:22-24)
3. Read Mark 7:20-23. How does Jesus describe the location of sin? Why is important to look under the surface to diagnose the cause of sin? How does the disease of sin affect us and the world?
4. Pastor Austin used the illustration of a tree that looks healthy on the outside but is rotting from within. How does this help you to understand that sin is a problem that goes deeper than the bad things we do?
5. Read Genesis 1:26-28. What difference does it make to know that we are created “in the image of God?” Read Romans 1:18-22. Why does Paul insist that what may be known about God should be plain to us? How does Paul describe the origin our sin in verse 21?
6. Pastor Austin said that our loss of a desire to worship God is often the first indicator that someone is wrong spiritually. Why is it so important to glorify God and give thanks to him? (Matthew 22:36-40; John 3:23-24) What are the modern idols that often distract and dissuade us from worship of the Living God? How will you express your love for God this week?