# Understanding Sin and God's Love for Children



Explore what sin is, why it matters, and how God's love guides children to live in His grace and truth.





## Table of contents

| <u>Introduction</u>                      | 3  |
|--|----|
| Day 1: ** What Is Sin?                   | 5  |
| Day 2: God's Creation and Our Choice     | 11 |
| Day 3: The Consequences of Sin           | 17 |
| Day 4:  God's Love and Forgiveness       | 23 |
| Day 5: 🛠 Living Free From Sin's Power    | 29 |
| Day 6:  Becoming Like Jesus              | 35 |
| Day 7: 🕭 Living in God's Grace Every Day | 41 |







## Introduction

Welcome to this 7-day Bible study on 'Children: What Is Sin and Why Does It Matter?' This study is designed to help children and those guiding them understand the nature of sin, its consequences, and most importantly, God's incredible love and grace. Sin is a concept often challenging to grasp, especially for children, but recognizing what sin means and why it matters daily can transform how they live and relate to God and others.

Sin is fundamentally missing the mark God has set for our lives. It is turning away from God's perfect design and choosing our way instead. This study will take you through Scripture passages that explain what sin is, how it entered the world, and why God cares deeply about it. Yet, beyond the seriousness of sin, you'll discover the hope and forgiveness God offers through Jesus Christ — a message every child can embrace for a joyful and purposeful life.

Throughout these seven days, you'll read Bible stories, reflect on God's words, and deepen your understanding of how sin impacts relationships with God and others. You'll also be encouraged to think about God's plan for redemption and how grace covers our mistakes, leading to a renewed heart and mind. Whether you're a child yourself or mentoring one, this study invites you to encounter God's truth gently and powerfully, fostering growth in faith and character.







Let's begin this journey together, opening our hearts to learning, repentance, and the overwhelming love God has for every child.  $\triangle$ 









Day 1: \* What Is Sin?









Day 1: \* What Is Sin?

#### Your Verse

Romans 3:23 - "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- 1 John 3:4 "Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness."
- Genesis 3:6 "When the woman saw that the fruit was good for food... she took some and ate it."







Day 1: \* What Is Sin?

## Devotional: Defining Sin: Missing God's Mark

Sin is missing God's perfect standard. It means choosing things our way instead of God's way. The Bible tells us that everyone has sinned — no one is without it. In the story of Adam and Eve (Genesis 3), sin entered the world when they disobeyed God by eating from the tree He told them not to eat from. This act showed humanity's first choice to go against God's command.

When we sin, we break God's laws and separate ourselves from Him. But it's important to know that recognizing sin is the first step to receiving God's forgiveness. Sin has consequences, but God loves us so much that He provides a way to be made right with Him. Understanding sin helps us see our need for God's help and grace every day.

Think about what sin means in your own life. It's not just about doing things wrong — it's about turning away from the kindness and love God wants to fill your heart with.







Day 1: XX What Is Sin?

## Reflect and Apply

| 1. | What do you think it means to 'fall short of the glory of God'? |
|----|---|
|    |   |
| 2. | Can you think of ways people might break God's laws today?      |
|    |   |
| 3. | Why do you think God cares about sin so much?                   |
|    |   |







Day 1: 🗱 What Is Sin?

## **Journaling Prompts**

| 1. | Write about a time when you felt you made a wrong choice. |
|----|---|
|    |   |
| 2. | Describe what you think God's perfect plan looks like.    |
|    |   |
|    |   |
| 3. | How would you explain 'sin' to a friend your age?         |
|    |   |
|    |   |







Day 1: \* What Is Sin?

## Prayer for Today

**Dear God,** thank You for loving me even when I make mistakes. Help me understand what sin is and why it matters so I can choose to follow You better each day. Teach me to listen to Your voice and follow Your ways. Please forgive me when I go wrong and fill my heart with Your peace and love. *Guide me to live for You and share Your kindness with others.* Amen.  $\bigwedge$ 

















Day 2: 6 God's Creation and Our Choice

#### Your Verse

Genesis 1:31 - "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- Deuteronomy 30:19 "...choose life, so that you and your children may live."
- Psalm 139:14 "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made."







Day 2: God's Creation and Our Choice

## Devotional: Made Good, Yet Given Freedom

**God's creation was originally perfect.** When God made the world and everything in it, including us, He called it "very good." This means everything in creation reflected God's goodness and love. Importantly, God created us with the freedom to choose — to love Him and to live according to His ways.

Choice is very important because it means we can decide how we live our lives. When we choose God's way, we experience life as He intended it to be—full of joy, peace, and love. But sometimes, people choose the opposite, which leads to sin and separation from God.

God wants children to know they are wonderfully made with a purpose and that each choice they make matters. Even when mistakes happen, His love is there to guide them back to the right path. Remember, God's desire is for you to choose life and live it fully according to His plan.







Day 2: 6 God's Creation and Our Choice

## Reflect and Apply

| 1. | What does it mean that God made you fearfully and wonderfully? |
|----|--|
|    |  |
| 2. | Why do you think God gave people the ability to choose?        |
|    |  |
| 3. | How can your choices show love for God and others?             |
|    |  |







Day 2: 6 God's Creation and Our Choice

## **Journaling Prompts**

| 1. | Write about a choice you made recently that had a good outcome. |
|----|---|
|    |   |
| 2. | Describe what being 'very good' means in God's creation.        |
|    |   |
| 3. | How can you remind yourself to choose God's way each day?       |
|    |   |







Day 2: God's Creation and Our Choice

## Prayer for Today

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for creating me wonderfully and giving me the freedom to choose. Help me to choose what pleases You every day. When I face hard choices, guide my heart to follow Your truths. Thank You for always loving me, even when I mess up. Please fill me with Your wisdom and peace as I live for You. I trust in Your plans for my life. Amen. (?) \*\*

















#### Your Verse

Romans 6:23 – "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- Isaiah 59:2 "Your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you."
- James 1:15 "Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full–grown, gives birth to death."







## Devotional: Sin's Serious Separation

Sin has serious consequences. The Bible tells us that sin is like a poison that separates us from God, the source of all life and goodness. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin affected not just them but all people afterward. The 'wages' or payment of sin is death — not just physical death, but spiritual separation from God's life and love.

However, God's love is greater than sin's consequences. He gives the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ, who came to rescue us. This means although sin breaks our relationship with God, Jesus offers a way back to joy and peace with Him. Recognizing sin's consequences helps us take it seriously and turn to God's gift of grace.

*Think about* what it means to be separated from God and how Jesus helps us be close to Him again. This is why understanding sin matters so much — it shows us our need for God's rescue plan.







## Reflect and Apply

| 1. | Why do you think sin causes separation from God?      |
|----|---|
|    |   |
| 2. | What does 'wages of sin is death' mean to you?        |
|    |   |
| 3. | How does knowing about Jesus change your view of sin? |
|    |   |







## **Journaling Prompts**

| 1. | Write about why sin is serious and how it affects your life.       |
|----|--|
|    |  |
| 2. | Describe how you can experience the gift of eternal life.          |
|    |  |
| 3. | Think of a time Jesus helped you when you felt separated from God. |
|    |  |







## Prayer for Today

**Lord God,** thank You that even though sin separates me from You, Your love never gives up on me. Help me understand the seriousness of sin and the importance of choosing Your way. Thank You for sending Jesus to bring me back to You. Please help me to live in Your grace and forgive others as You forgive me. *Guide me to walk in Your light each day.* Amen. 4

















#### Your Verse

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

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- Psalm 103:12 "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."
- Ephesians 1:7 "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins."







## Devotional: Forgiveness Restores Our Hope

God's love is full of forgiveness. When we recognize sin in our lives and confess it to God, He promises to forgive and cleanse us completely. This means God doesn't keep a list of our mistakes to punish us later. Instead, He removes our sins far away and gives us a fresh start.

Jesus' sacrifice on the cross made this forgiveness possible. Because of Him, we can live without the burden of guilt and shame. Forgiveness restores our relationship with God and fills us with hope and peace. It also teaches us to forgive others because God has been so gracious to us.

*Remember, forgiveness is a gift* we receive by trusting in Jesus. It frees us from sin's power and helps us live the way God intends — filled with joy and kindness. Forgiveness is why sin matters: it shows us our need for God's love and the new life He offers.







## Reflect and Apply

| 1. | How does it feel to know God fully forgives your sins?       |
|----|--|
|    |  |
|    |  |
| 2. | Why is forgiveness important in your relationship with God?  |
|    |  |
|    |  |
| 3. | How can you show forgiveness to others like God does to you? |
|    |  |
|    |  |







## **Journaling Prompts**

| 1. | Write about a time you asked for forgiveness or forgave someone. |
|----|--|
|    |  |
| 2. | Describe what God's forgiveness means to you personally.         |
|    |  |
| 3. | Think how forgiveness changes the way you live each day.         |
|    |  |
|    |  |







## **Prayer for Today**

**Dear Heavenly Father,** thank You for the amazing gift of forgiveness through Jesus. Help me to always turn to You when I sin and trust that You will forgive me. Teach me to forgive others with the same grace You show me. Fill my heart with Your peace and love so that I can live joyfully for You. *Thank You for making me new.* Amen.















#### Your Verse

Galatians 5:1 - "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free."

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- Romans 8:1 "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."
- John 8:36 "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."







#### Devotional: Freedom in Christ Over Sin

When Jesus comes into our lives, He sets us free. Sin tries to keep us trapped in guilt and fear, but God wants us to experience freedom and fullness of life. Through faith in Jesus, sin no longer controls us — we can choose to live in God's power and love.

This freedom means we don't have to be scared of making mistakes or sinning because God's Spirit helps us to grow and change. Living free from sin's power is a daily choice to trust God and follow Him. It's not always easy, but God promises to be with us every step of the way.

*Think about* what it means to be free and how you can live in that freedom today. God's love helps us say no to sin and yes to the good things He wants for us.







## Reflect and Apply

| 1. | What does it mean to be free in Christ?             |
|----|---|
|    |   |
|    |   |
| 2. | How can you rely on God's power to overcome sin?    |
|    |   |
|    |   |
| 3. | What are some ways you can choose God's path daily? |
|    |   |
|    |   |







## **Journaling Prompts**

| 1. | Write about how Jesus has helped you feel free.                 |
|----|---|
|    |   |
|    |   |
| 2. | Describe what freedom in Christ looks like to you.              |
|    |   |
|    |   |
| 3. | Think of a challenge where you need God's help to choose right. |
|    |   |
|    |   |







## Prayer for Today

**Lord Jesus,** thank You for setting me free from sin. Help me to live in this freedom every day by trusting You and making good choices. When I feel weak or tempted, remind me that Your Spirit is helping me. Please guide my heart to follow Your ways and share Your love with others. *I want to live fully for You.* Amen.









# Day 6: Pecoming Like Jesus









Day 6: We Becoming Like Jesus

#### Your Verse

Ephesians 4:22–24 – "Put off your old self... and put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- Colossians 3:10 "...and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator."
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"







Day 6: We Becoming Like Jesus

## Devotional: Growing in God's Likeness

God wants us to become more like Jesus. When we choose to follow Him, He begins to change our hearts and minds. This means putting away old habits or ways that don't please God and choosing new ways that reflect Jesus' love, kindness, and holiness.

This process is called sanctification — growing more like Christ each day. It's normal to still make mistakes, but God's Spirit helps us learn and improve. Becoming like Jesus means showing love to others, telling the truth, and living with joy and peace.

*Remember* that God doesn't expect perfection overnight but is patient and kind as we grow. Choosing to put on the 'new self' means embracing God's plan for a life full of purpose and goodness.







Day 6: 🎔 Becoming Like Jesus

## Reflect and Apply

| 1. | What does it mean to put on the 'new self'?                    |
|----|--|
|    |  |
|    |  |
| 2. | How can you grow more like Jesus every day?                    |
|    |  |
| 3. | What changes do you want to make to reflect God's love better? |
|    |  |
|    |  |







Day 6: We Becoming Like Jesus

## **Journaling Prompts**

| 1. | Write about qualities of Jesus you want to have.                 |
|----|--|
|    |  |
| 2. | Describe ways you can show God's love to friends and family.     |
|    |  |
| 3. | Think about one thing you can start doing differently this week. |
|    |  |







Day 6: V Becoming Like Jesus

## Prayer for Today

**Dear Jesus,** thank You for wanting me to be like You. Help me to put off old habits and choose new ways that honor God. Teach me to love others as You do and to live in truth and kindness. Thank You for being patient with me as I grow. *Make my heart more like Yours every day.* Amen. �� 🙏 💛 🗯















#### Your Verse

2 Corinthians 12:9 – "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- Hebrews 4:16 "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence."
- Philippians 4:13 "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."







## Devotional: Daily Grace and Strength from God

**God's grace is with us every day.** Even when we stumble or feel weak, God's power helps us. His grace means He gives us the strength we need to keep going, forgive ourselves, and continue growing in faith.

Living in grace means we don't have to be afraid to come to God with our problems, sins, or questions. He welcomes us with open arms and fills us with courage and peace. As children of God, we can face challenges knowing that His grace is enough for every situation.

*Today*, remember that God's love and grace go before you, behind you, and surround you. This grace enables you to live confidently, choosing God's way and sharing His love with joy.







## Reflect and Apply

| 1. | How does God's grace help you when you feel weak?                |
|----|--|
|    |  |
| 2. | Why is it important to approach God with confidence?             |
|    |  |
| 3. | In what areas of your life do you need God's strength right now? |
|    |  |







## **Journaling Prompts**

| 1. | Write about a time you experienced God's grace.            |
|----|--|
|    |  |
|    |  |
|    |  |
| 2. | Describe how you can rely on God's strength in daily life. |
|    |  |
|    |  |
| 3. | Think about how you can share God's grace with others.     |
|    |  |
|    |  |







## Prayer for Today

**Gracious God,** thank You that Your grace is enough for me every day. Help me to come to You with confidence, knowing You love and strengthen me. When I feel weak or unsure, remind me that Your power is perfect in my weakness. Please fill me with Your peace and joy as I live for You. *Thank You for never leaving me alone.* Amen.  $\bigwedge$ 







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