MARINERS CHURCH



Bouncing Back from Sin and Guilt

Not a single person on earth is always good and never sins. Ecclesiastes 7:20

"How does God feel about me when I sin?"

"I heard you in the garden; I was afraid and hid from you." Genesis 3:10 (GNT)

Fear has to do with punishment. 1 John 4:18 (NIV)

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an <u>advocate</u> with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the <u>propitiation</u> for our sins. 1 John 2:1-2

Propitiation: payment made to satisfy what I owe **Advocate:** the person who argues your case in court.

If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar. 1 John 1:8, 10 (NLT)

Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Nothing can ever separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:33-39



So what do I do?

Tell my sins to God.

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

Confess my sins to someone else.

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. James 5:16

Love God more.

"You are simultaneously worse than you ever imagined and more loved and accepted than you've ever dreamed." -J.D. Greear But if anybody does sin, we have one who pleads with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the one who paid for our sins. 1 John 2:1-2

Talk it Over! For my thoughts and LifeGroup*

Let's talk about "our sin." How do you usually feel when you sin? How do you usually think God feels about you when you sin?

Do you think "feeling guilty" is a good way of dealing with your sin? Why or why not?

Read 1 John 1:5-2:11. What is John telling us about US? What is he saying about sin and forgiveness?

If we are completely forgiven by God, why do we need to "confess" our sins to God (1 John 1:9)? And why do we need to confess to each other (James 5:16)?

Read Romans 8:33-39. Name what stands out to you regarding forgiveness and God's love.

What do you do when someone has wronged you? How do you GIVE and SHOW forgiveness?

Pray for each other!!

*A LifeGroup is a group of people who are committed to loving each other and growing through times like these. For more information, connect with Pastor Len at len@marinerscc.org