

ONELIGHT

Part 3 – Do not sin
A study from 1 John

I John 2:1-2

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.



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1 John 1:5

This is the message!

The message was from Jesus

God is light

- Genesis 1:3 - Creator
- Psalm 36:9 - Life
- Colossians 1:17 – Holds all things together



God is light – 1 John 1:5

The foundation for John's message was and is based on who God is, God's character and being.

John's starting point for change was God

If our view of God is distorted everything else is (probably) out of joint.



I John 1:6-10 - If we claim ...

We need to have a right view of ourselves. If our view of who we are is distorted, we most likely will not live in the truth of who God is.

Ephesians 2:1-2 – We have all lived in darkness and we live in a world that does not recognize God as light and life.

Jeremiah 17:9 – Our heart is deceitful

I John 1:6-10 - If we claim ...

1:6 We may claim to have fellowship with God but live life opposed to truth

(The spiritual – God – is disconnected with life – our actions and lifestyle)

1:8 We may claim we are without sin

(Most likely this was a denial that 'sin' had lasting power in a persons life)

1:10 We may claim we have not sinned

(Whatever is true about sin does not impact me AND/OR I am no longer a sinner. This claim denies the need for the gospel)

The message

- (1) It starts with God (His character and being)
- (2) It continues with the realization of who we are and our need to be reconciled with God (and our ability to deny that need)
- (3) Jesus makes it possible to be right with God and see who He truly is when we recognize the reality that we have missed the mark of recognizing 'who God is' in our lives.



I write this

The message:

God is light and life! John wrote this letter to warn the readers that they were being taught things that did not reflect this truth

We, too, need to realize that we can be pulled out of living in the truth that God is light and life!



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Do not sin – an impossible mission?

The statement is a summary.

Do not sin



Do not sin

What is sin:

Wikipedia: Sin is an act that violates a known moral rule in religion.



Do not sin

What is sin:

Webster online:

1.

- a. Sin is an offense again a religious or moral law.
- b. An action that is or is felt to be highly reprehensible.

2.

- a. a transgression (infringement or violation) of the law of God
- b. A vitiated (faulty or defective) state of human nature in which the self is estranged from God.



Do not sin

What is sin:

1 John 2:1

- Miss the mark
- To err
- To wander from the path



Do not sin

What is sin:

Sin is walking outside of the truth that God is light

John Stott, theologian, "All sin is in essence an attack on the character of God."

In this decision, area of my life, I am choosing not to follow God



Do not sin

John's Challenge:

Live in the truth of who God is and connect this with every moment of our lives ... a significant part of this truth is found in Jesus.



I John 2:1-2

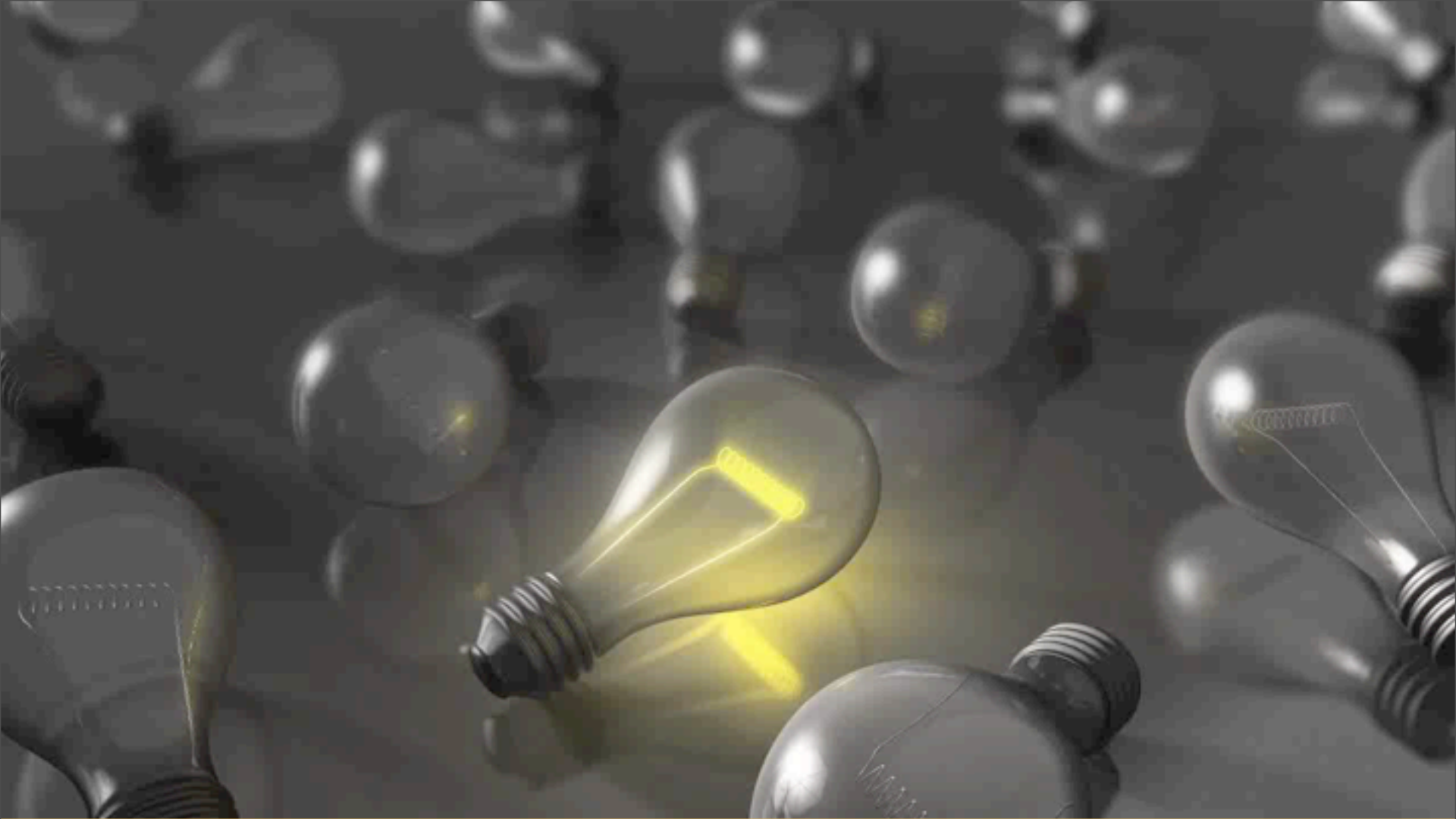
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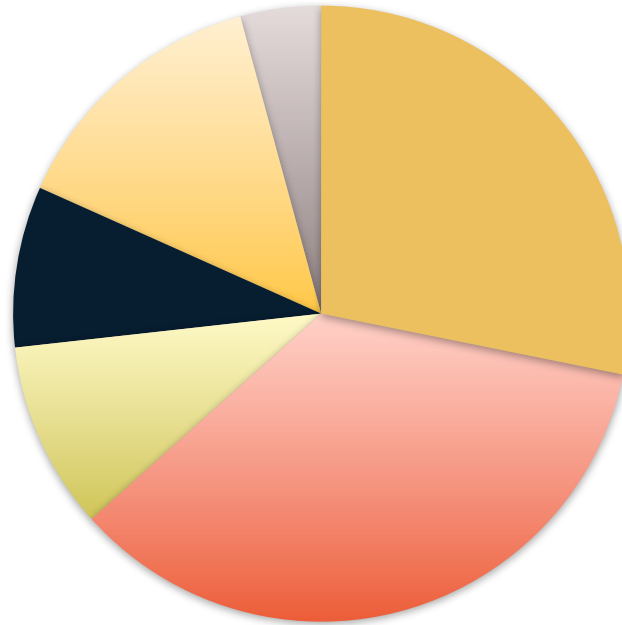


Regardless of the circumstances we are left with as a result of our sin, we can still have a right relationship with God (move back into the light) and live out Truth in our lives.





Segmented Life



- Family
- Work
- Church
- Hobbies
- Recreation
- Driving



Do not sin

Not a new concept:

Jesus said, "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."
(Matthew 5:48)

I Peter 1:16

"But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." (Reference Old Testament book Leviticus 11:44-45).

