

Lesson 3. S-Basic Gospel Points

Point # 2—Sin

Review and Introduction

Cross out the wrong words.

1. In presenting the Gospel, there are five/seven important points which we share with the unbeliever.
2. The first one is love/growth, and the second one is sin. In this lesson, we talk about sin. (Ro 3:12)
3. If we begin by telling a person that he is a sinner and does wrong things, he will not want to hear more because no one likes to lose face by hearing that he does wrong things.
4. On the other hand, if we begin by telling a person about God's wrath/love, he might want to hear more because a person likes to hear about the true God Who loves him.
5. We want to speak in such a manner that the listener will gladly welcome us back to talk some more.
6. Once the person is assured of God's love, we proceed to tell him about sin. He needs to know he is a sinner before he can know his need for a Savior.

1. Original Sin

We divide sin into two categories, *original sin* and *actual sin*.

Original sin is the sin with which we are born.

1. The first person that God created on earth was Adam/Abraham. (Ge 2:7) From Adam, God made all the nations on this earth. (Ac 17:26a) In **Picture 1** we see that from Adam's offspring came all the people of the earth. God sees the whole human race as being one race in Adam.

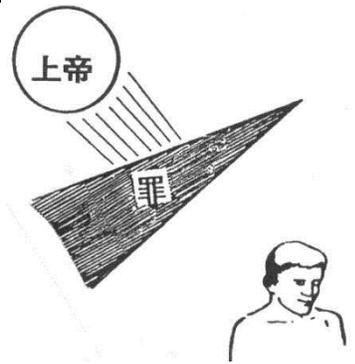
Picture 1



2. God loved Adam and took the initiative to make a good life for him to enjoy/suffer. In the same way, He also gives us everything to enjoy. (1Ti 6:17b)
 - 1) God gave Adam a garden/building to live in. (Ge 2:8) The garden had all kinds of trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food, and a river that flowed to water the garden. (Ge 2:9-10)
 - 2) God let Adam name all the animals and birds, and, best of all, God made a wife for him. (Ge 2:18-22)
 - 3) God blessed Adam and Eve and told them to have many children, fill and subdue the earth, and rule over the fish, the birds, and all living creatures. (Ge 1:28)

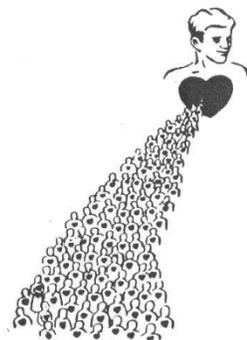
- 4) God also provided all kinds of plants and trees so that Adam and Eve could have many different things to eat. (Ge 1:29)
 - 5) In conclusion, God provided everything that Adam and Eve needed, and made it all to be very bad/good. (Ge 1:31)
3. God made only one/ten rule(s) for Adam to obey, and that rule was that he should not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If he ate of it, he would die. (Ge 2:16-17)
 4. But, alas, Adam ate the fruit of the forbidden tree. Adam disobeyed the one rule God gave him and the result was horrible.
 - 1) Instead of looking forward to having God's presence with him in the garden, he hid himself from God's presence—that is, he separated himself from God. (Ge 3:8) Sin indeed separates us from God. (Isa 59:2a)
 - 2) In **Picture 2** we see Adam separated from God by sin. To say that he was separated from God means that he lived/died spiritually, that is—he no longer enjoyed a close relationship with God.

Picture 2



- 3) Through Adam's disobedience, all mankind is sinful. (Ro 5:19) In **Picture 3** we see that through Adam all mankind inherited sin, and thus all/some of mankind is sinful. This is called *original sin*.

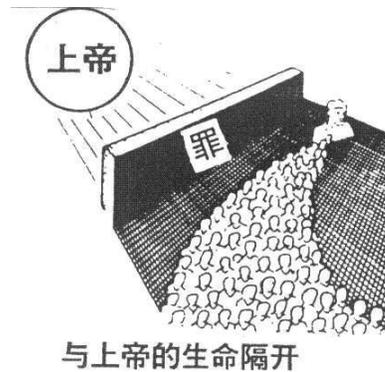
Picture 3



因亚当一人的犯罪，全人类也有罪

- 4) In **Picture 4** we see that because of sin, death entered the world. (Ro 5:12) As Adam sinned, we also sin and the result is death for us all (Eze 18:20a) that is—separation from/connection with God.

Picture 4



2. Actual Sin

Fill in all the blanks with these words: *thought(s)*, *word(s)*, *deed(s)*.

Because we (mankind) have a sinful nature (original sin) we do much wrong, including sins of fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, anger, selfishness, dissension, party spirit, envy, drunkenness, and carousing. (Gal 5:19-21a) This kind of sin is called *actual sin*.

1. There are three kinds of actual sins of commission, namely, the wrong things done in thought, word, and _____.
 - 1) One kind of sin of commission is wrong thoughts. Mk 7:21-23 lists sins of thought—such as coveting, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, pride.
 - 2) Another kind of sin of commission is saying wrong things. Jas 3:2 tells us to be careful about what we say lest we commit sins of _____ such as lying, gossiping, saying angry words to someone, quarrelling, and belittling someone.
 - 3) A third kind of sin of commission is doing wrong things. These are called sins of deed. Jn 3:19-20 speaks of loving the darkness and committing sins of deed such as fighting, hitting, stealing, kicking and committing adultery.
2. Beside actual sins of commission which include thinking, saying, and doing wrong things, there are also actual sins of omission. These are right things that we fail to think, say, or do. (Jas 4:17) There are many positive things we should take the initiative to think, say, or do, but we don't.
 - 1) One kind of sin of omission is failing to think the right _____. There are many kinds of thoughts we should have. Examples of such thoughts are prayer thoughts; thoughts of how to help others; the Word of God; thankfulness for God's beautiful creation; thoughts of things that are true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, gracious, excellent, and worthy of praise. (Php 4:8)
 - 2) Another kind of sin of omission is failing to say the things we should say. There are many kinds of _____ that we should speak. Examples of such words are words of love;

encouragement; comfort; praise to people; prayer; words of praise and thanksgiving to God. (Pr 25:11)

- 3) Another kind of sin of omission is failing to do the things we should do, that is—sins of _____. There are many kinds of deeds that we should do such as helping around the home with the housework or in the fields with the planting and reaping; providing for the thirsty and hungry; welcoming strangers; giving clothes to those in need; visiting those who are sick or in prison. (Mt 25:42-43)

There are many positive things we should take the initiative to think, say, and do, but we don't. These are actual sins of omission.

3. Importance of Personal Self-Examination Time

The personal examination time is not designed to make you feel burdened by the Law. It is rather to make you think more deeply about your own thought-life, the words you say, as well as your actions. There are several purposes for doing this. They are as follows:

1. To help you see more clearly just what might be included when talking about sin with a non-Christian
2. To remind you that you are also a sinner--You should never speak with a non-believer as if that person sins, but you do not sin.
3. To help you to see where you are needing to change with the power of the Holy Spirit
4. To help you examine yourself before partaking of Holy Communion (1Co 11:28)--Most important is to remember that through receiving Holy Communion, you receive the forgiveness of your sins. (Mt 26:28)

Homework Assignments:

1. In this lesson, cross out the wrong words and fill in the blanks as directed.
2. Here is a follow-up on the self-examination time in class. This homework assignment is for your own edification. You do not need to prepare anything to hand in or to discuss in class.
 - 1) Look at the paper you wrote in class about your recent thoughts, words, and deeds. It should contain the following three items:
 - a. What you have thought in the last 24 hours (Ps. 19:14)
 - b. What you have spoken during the last week
 - c. What you have done in the last two weeks (I Co 10:31)
 - 2) Especially notice all the places that you marked "x", indicating wrong thoughts, words, or deeds. Remember that the very fact that you put an "x" by certain things shows that the Holy Spirit is working in your heart.
 - 3) Thank God that He has given you the forgiveness of sins through the sacrament of Holy Communion. Read 1Jn 1:7-9 and rest assured that through the blood of Jesus Christ, your sins are washed away.
 - 4) Choose just one area in which God wants you to change and circle it. Ask Him to help you to change in that area of your life.
 - a. List some definite things He wants you to do in that area.

- b. Memorize Php 2:13 to remind you that it is God Who will give you the will and the power to do what is right.