

Doing What's Right

A Study on "Sins of Omission"

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Most of us have a pretty good idea what sin is. We know sin is anything we do that doesn't please God. Maybe it's lying, or cheating on a test at school. Maybe when you think of sin, you think of doing drugs, or killing people.

ASK: What are some examples of sin???

It's true that there is a lot of bad stuff we could do that would be sin, but there is another kind of sin: **Sins of Omission**. In other words, sin is not only doing something bad (like drugs, cussing, or killing) but sin can be **NOT** doing something that we should do.

Have volunteer read:

James 4:17 NIV

Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

This verse makes it crystal clear, that if we know the good things we should do, and don't do it, that is sin.

Illustration:

-Do any of you have a little brother or sister? Than you know they can really be a pain in the neck some times. Anybody know what I'm talking about???

I have a little sister (Bethany). She is four years younger than me. My brother is two years younger than me. So it's like a step ladder. I'm the oldest, than two years later, out popped my brother, and than two years after

that, along came Bethany. When we were growing up in Pennsylvania, it would often snow in the winter. And that meant two things... no school, and snowball fights. Let me tell you about my little sister. Several times when we'd get an awesome snow day, we'd all go outside to play, and without fail she would find an ice-cold snow ball and throw it at me or Jeremy. Of course, we would make a huge snow ball and throw it back at her, and nail her, usually right in the head... Then she would start balling and go tell mom on us. We always got in trouble, even though she threw the first snowball!!!

So we all know little brothers and sisters can be a pain sometimes. But we know we're not supposed to hurt them, but sometimes, we slip and hit them, or call them some cruel name. That's something bad we do, and we get in trouble with our mom or dad. That's like sin. We do something bad and we pay the consequences.

But there's another way we get into trouble with mom or dad. It's not doing something we should do. For example: mom says, "Son take out the trash." We know we're supposed to do it, but an hour later she has to come to us again and say, "Son, I told you to take out the trash. Why isn't it out???" And we make some lame excuse, and than a half hour later she has to ask us again, because it's still not done. So we get grounded for the night. **We have to pay for not doing what we should have done. That is like a sin of omission.**

Why is it called a "sin of omission"? To omit means to leave out, or skip over. When we OMIT doing good; we skip over the good we should do, or we leave out the good.

And just like bad things we do, when we don't do what we should there are always consequences. Some are long term, some or immediate.

ASK:

1. What are some things that we should do, and if we don't it might be a sin of omission???

2. What could be the consequences to not doing the good we should do in that situation???

Should Do:

- Read the Word
- Pray
- Tell our friends about Jesus
- Obey our parents

Ephes. 6:2-3 NIV

"Honor your father and mother"--which is the first commandment with a promise-- [3] "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

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| -Come to church | -we won't grow up in God |
| -Tell the truth | -no one will trust you |
| -Go to school | -never graduate |
| -Avoid temptations | -sin, and mess up our walk with God |

Consequence:

- we won't know the truth
- we won't be close to God
- they might go to hell!!!
- our life might be cut short

What could be the consequences to not doing the good we should do in that situation???

Conclusion:

It is important that we seek to always do what's right. That is how we'll lead an awesome life. If we chose to obey God in everything, we'll have joy and inner peace... nothing can shake

us. But if we chose to disobey God and we don't care whether we do right or not... we're going to have consequences to pay. I want God's best for you and He wants what's best for you. Do you want God's best???

Maybe there is something in your life that you should be doing but aren't. Like reading your Bible more... or always telling the truth. If there is an area that you want to do better in, write it on this piece of paper... no name, just the thing you need help with... and then I'm going to pray over these this week. We're also going to pray together right now, that God would help us to always do what's right. That we could live an awesome life.