

Leader's Guide — Understanding Sin Series

How to Use This Guide

This Leader's Guide is designed to help you facilitate group discussions based on the study series 'Understanding Sin — From Brokenness to Redemption.' Each session includes a summary of the main teaching points, discussion prompts, suggested answers or insights, and optional prayer directions. The goal is not to simply convey information, but to create a space where truth leads to transformation.

Encourage honesty, create a grace-filled environment, and trust the Holy Spirit to do the deeper work in hearts.

Part 1: What Is Sin? — More Than Just Bad Behavior

*****Focus:** Sin as missing the mark, rebellion, and relational rupture.***

Session Summary

Sin is not just about wrongdoing; it is a deep fracture in our relationship with God. It's rooted in rebellion and disconnection. This session helps clarify the biblical definition of sin and set the tone for the rest of the study.

Key Insights & Discussion Prompts

- Ask how participants have traditionally viewed sin—rule-breaking vs. relational separation.
- Emphasize the relational consequences of sin—what was lost in Eden.
- Discuss why universal sinfulness (Romans 3:23) puts us all in need of grace.

Prayer Focus

Pray for open hearts to see sin not as condemnation, but as a call back to relationship with God.

Part 2: The Origin of Sin — From Eden to Us

*****Focus:** The fall in Genesis, human choice, and the consequences of disobedience.***

Session Summary

This session explores how sin entered the world through Adam and Eve's disobedience and how that choice echoes in every life today.

Key Insights & Discussion Prompts

- Discuss how doubt and distrust were at the heart of the first sin.
- Explore Romans 5: how one man's act brought death, and one Man's obedience brings life.
- Reflect on the ongoing effects of inherited sin nature.

Prayer Focus

Pray for awareness of personal areas where we still try to 'be our own god'—and the courage to surrender.

Part 3: The Effects of Sin — Separation, Shame, and Death

*****Focus:** What sin does to our hearts, our relationships, and the world.***

Session Summary

Sin always causes damage—internally and externally. This session addresses the consequences of sin and prepares the heart for grace.

Key Insights & Discussion Prompts

- Help participants connect the dots between sin and brokenness in their own stories.
- Talk about how shame affects our identity and relationship with God.
- Use Romans 6:23 as a pivot—sin brings death, but God offers life.

Prayer Focus

Pray for those still burdened by shame, and ask God to speak truth and healing over their hearts.

Part 4: Sin and the Law — Why Rules Couldn't Save Us

*****Focus:** The role of the Law in exposing sin but not curing it.***

Session Summary

This week helps participants understand that the Law was never meant to save us—it was meant to lead us to the One who could.

Key Insights & Discussion Prompts

- Discuss the limitations of the Law—how it diagnoses but doesn't heal.
- Explore the inner conflict Paul describes in Romans 7.
- Highlight the shift from rule-keeping to Spirit-led living.

Prayer Focus

Pray for a deeper dependence on grace, not performance. Ask for freedom from legalism.

Part 5: The Remedy for Sin — The Cross and Repentance

*****Focus:** Jesus' atonement, substitution, and the invitation to repentance.***

Session Summary

This session centers on the cross—what Jesus accomplished and how we are to respond through repentance and faith.

Key Insights & Discussion Prompts

- Explain substitutionary atonement clearly and simply.
- Invite personal stories of repentance and restoration.
- Discuss the difference between remorse and repentance.

Prayer Focus

Pray for a personal revelation of the cross and for genuine repentance that brings freedom.

Part 6: Living Free — Walking in Victory Over Sin

*****Focus:** Sanctification, Spirit-led living, and ongoing confession.***

Session Summary

The final session shifts to the new life we've been given in Christ—freedom, fruit, and daily fellowship with the Spirit.

Key Insights & Discussion Prompts

- Discuss what it means to walk in the Spirit day by day.
- Affirm that freedom is not the absence of struggle, but the presence of hope and help.
- Encourage testimony of growth, not perfection.

Prayer Focus

Pray for spiritual strength and fresh commitment to walk in the Spirit and bear fruit.