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SERIES OVERVIEW

Everybody knows that the Bible is full of moral rules, and that Christians are not supposed to break them. If we do break them, that's called sin, and our job is to avoid it if we want to be good people. Unfortunately, that's about as deep as it gets for many modern Christ-followers' understanding of moral integrity. We develop a comfortable habit of "sin management" and trust that God will forgive us when we fail.

But what if the biblical call for morality was far more profound than we often realize? What if sin is far more corrosive and damaging than we give it credit for? And what if God is calling us to become not just good managers of our sin but entirely transformed humans in the ethics and morals which guide our lives? In this series, we will take a fresh look at the biblical call for moral integrity and experience a renewed invitation to become not just "good people," but Christlike beacons of life and hope in a world desperately in need of it.

WEEK 1 - RESTORING THE IMAGE OF GOD OVERVIEW

What is sin? This may sound like an easy question to answer, but in truth we have a lot of baggage to unload to grasp its real biblical definition. In this message we will explore the grand narrative of Scripture and see how humans, created in the image of God, have had that image disfigured through our self-serving rebellion against God's intentions (a.k.a. "sin"). We will also begin to understand how Christ restores the image of God in us through the power of the Holy Spirit, so that we can begin to live out the core biblical moral principles in the midst of a still broken world.

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:2

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is sin?
2. Explain why art restoration is a good illustration of how Jesus works in our lives.
3. What did Barry mean when he said, "the image of God in humans is disfigured by our sin."
4. How is sin described in the Bible? (see [Proverbs 5:22](#), [Hebrews 12:1](#), [Genesis 4:7](#), [Galatians 3:22](#), [Romans 6:18](#), [James 1:15](#))
5. Barry mentioned "sin management" and "you do you" as sort of generational ways of approaching sin. What do these mean? Have you ever lived like this? Why are these not biblical ways to live?
6. What would it look like to let God, the master restorer, recover the image of God in you?
7. How could [Romans 8:12](#) and/or [Romans 12:2](#) help you refocus on moral integrity?

THE PRACTICE OF MORAL INTEGRITY

Disciples of Jesus reject the corruption of sin and reflect Christ to the world as image bearers of God.