

THE WAY: WEEK 1 // LESSON OUTLINE

BIG IDEA

Sin is the Way that Leads to Death

BIBLE

Genesis 3:1-6; Isaiah 53:6; Romans 6:23;
Ephesians 2:4-5; James 5:16

ABOUT THIS WEEK

This week, we'll take a look at how the Bible describes sin and its consequences. Unfortunately, many of us think about sin like it's not that big of a deal, but Scripture is clear that sin put all of humanity in a hopeless state, desperately in need of a savior.

WHAT?

Have you ever found yourself in a place you didn't want to be, and you wondered, "How did I end up here?" Today, the entire world finds itself in this position. But how did we get here? Well, in the beginning of time, when given a choice, humanity decided to turn our backs on God. We made the selfish decision to choose our own way instead of trusting what God says is best. This continued disobedience is called sin and it has MAJOR consequences for all of us.

SO WHAT?

The Bible is clear that this disobedience to God's will and His design is the reason for all of the pain and brokenness in the world and in our individual lives. But, because our hearts are deceitful, it will often try to convince us that we know better than God or that we know what's best for ourselves. While living this way may feel fine for a while, this type of lifestyle only has one outcome... death. The truth is that dead people can't do anything to help themselves. All throughout Scripture we see humanity try their best to figure things out on their own, but instead we just continue to mess it up over and over and over again. It becomes evident that we need someone else. We need someone with true life to create a way for us that redirects us from death to new life. Without that savior, we are hopeless. This is the situation that Jesus steps into. Jesus came to teach us that **sin is the way that leads to death**, but He offers us another way. Ephesians 2:4-5 teaches us that God is so rich in mercy that He made a way for us to be right with Him again, and we'll talk about that more next week.

NOW WHAT?

As we go through this Easter season, we are reflecting on and remembering why it is that Jesus had to come into our world. The first step of that process is recognizing our desperate need for Him which is why we've been talking about sin today. In the coming weeks, we will be reminded of the hope we now have in Jesus, but today, spend some time reflecting and asking God to reveal any sin in your heart.

- **PRAY AND REFLECT:** Ask God to point out the parts of you that are selfish and sinful.
- **REPENT:** If sin is a decision to turn our backs on God, repentance is the decision to turn back around, run to Him, and commit to living life as He intended.
- **CONFESS TO A TRUSTED GODLY LEADER:** James 5:16 teaches us that we find healing when we confess our sins to righteous, godly people in our lives. Take some time to think of who that may be and make a plan to share and get accountability.