

## The Contrast

# “We Are Absolutely Sinful”

Greg Wendschlag March 18, 2018

*“For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” Rom. 3:23*

The Contrast: The world says we are **born morally good**. We learn to do bad things. The Bible says we are **born sinful** therefore we do sinful things.

## Why We Sin

Sins – **the things we do**

Sin – **the nature we have**

*“Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men...judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation... the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men...by the disobedience of one man the many were made sinners...”*  
Rom. 6:12-19

## The Origin of Sin

Genesis 2-3

- God is **love**.
- Love requires **free will**.
- The existence of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil and God’s command not to eat of it gave man a **daily choice** to love God and obey.
- Sin already existed as a result of Lucifer’s rebellion. (Ezek. 28:13-17; Is. 14:12-15)
- Sin **infected humanity** by man’s rebellion.

Sin is rebellion against God and an assault on His good nature

- Rebellion against **God’s word** – “Did God really say?”
- Rebellion against **God’s goodness** – “God knows...your eyes will be opened”
- Rebellion against **God’s righteousness** – “You will not surely die.”
- Rebellion against **God’s holiness** – “God knows...you will be like God knowing good and evil.”

## The Consequences of Sin

*“The wages of sin is death...” Rom. 6:23*

- **Physical** death
- **Spiritual** death

- Death of **innocence**
- Death of **intimacy**
- Death of **integrity**

## All Have Sinned

*“If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.”*  
1 John 1:8

- We are not “**good enough**”. “Good enough” is the result of **comparing** with others.
- We don’t **deserve** anything except death.
- Doing it “**your way**” is not a virtue.
- Judge me **now** or judge me **later**.
- We must embrace the **worst news** before the **best news**

*“Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs in the Kingdom of Heaven.”* Matt. 5:3

## Discussion Starters for Your Groups InCommon

1. What is the Bible’s definition of sin?
2. In what ways does our sinful nature influence what we do and think?
3. How might our behavior change if we saw every misdeed as rebellion against God?
4. How does culture attempt to gloss over the existence of sin?
5. Why is the bad news about sin essential to our salvation?