153 Mount Edward Road
Charlottetown, PE C1A 5T1
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Churchy Words 8: Sin

Sunday, November 8, 2026

KEY PASSAGES

1 John 1:5-2:2 (NIV)

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father - Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

FIVE KEY POINTS

1. **Sin shows up far more often than we think.** Paul's letters alone name 74 different sins, and in the Sermon on the Mount Jesus goes further: rage at someone is murder in the heart.
2. **Hebrew has three words for it.** Chata is a slip, avon is a deliberate choice, and pesha is shaking your fist at God. In the end every sin is rebellion against God, which is why David could pray “against you, you only, have I sinned” in Psalm 51.
3. **Gratitude is the best reason not to sin.** Fear of punishment and guilt fall short, and so does trying to earn favour. Wanting to live God's way grows out of thanks for what Jesus has already done.
4. **We shouldn't rank other people's sins.** Churches tend to focus on a handful of big, visible sins, but pride, envy and resentment separate us from God just the same. Sin can also spread from person to person, the way gossip does.
5. **Be willing to be made willing.** Hand a particular sin over to God, or fill your mind with him instead. And preach the gospel to yourself, with Galatians 2:20 and 1 John 4:10 made personal.

STORIES & ILLUSTRATIONS

Praying for a trial. As a first-year student at Waterloo studying James, he asked God for a small trial to draw him closer. Within eight hours he had four. It worked, and he doesn't recommend it.

Cliff Clavin's shock collar. In an episode of Cheers, a counsellor zapped Cliff every time he slipped into his know-it-all routine, until Cliff grabbed the button and shocked himself. What would a sin alert on our smartwatches show us?

Thank you, Lord, for everything. A woman he once worked with thanked God for everything, good or bad, even a flat tire. It is hard to sin while you are busy thanking God.

Listen to the sermon again on Spotify · **Re-watch the sermon on YouTube**

902-894-4721 · info@charlottetowncrc.org · charlottetowncrc.org

Created by Levi Ewald