

# Let's Talk About Sin

by Carter Conlon

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*This sermon emphasizes the need for repentance, acknowledging sin, and surrendering to God for forgiveness and restoration. It highlights the consequences of sin, the mercy of God, and the power of Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the cross to cover our sins. The message urges listeners to turn away from sin, accept Jesus as Savior, and live in obedience to God's Word, finding true freedom and purpose in Christ.*

**Scripture:** Genesis 3:21, Psalms 22:16, John 8:36, James 4:8, 1 John 1:9, Romans 6:23, John 1:29, Romans 10:9, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:8, Revelation 3:20

**Topics:** "Repentance", "Mercy of God"

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## Description

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## Transcript

Every home I got online every person sitting in their kitchen their living room their car their bedroom every family looking for help and looking for hope and we ask you again today as we always have Oh God be our strength arise Lord for your holy namesake God and set your church free set your bride free my God from everything that would hinder her Lord everything that would stop her from becoming that last day beacon of praise and light in the world as you design and desire her to be and so God we're asking for miracles miracles tonight Lord we're not asking just for things that are can be done in human strength but things that can only be done by the Spirit of God let there be miracles my God in every heart in every life and in every home and we give you praise and we give you glory in Jesus name amen and amen thank you everybody God bless you may be seated here in the sanctuary and and at home too as well for those that are with us online this evening I want to encourage you to prepare to have communion with us at the end of this this service this evening we always take the bread and the juice and you can use any kind of bread or juice that you find in your apartment or your home or wherever you are and we celebrate the victory of Jesus Christ on the cross 2,000 years ago when he died in our place and prevailed over the power of the grave and death and sin and gave us the promise not just of eternal life but of a new and a full and a meaningful life here on on the earth as we live in him and so I'm going to give you an opportunity before we go to the communion table after I speak this word today to turn in a sense in your heart towards Jesus Christ and acknowledge him as Lord and Savior and when we do there's going to be a number that

comes up on the screen that we're asking you to text in the word decided to the number 5 1 0 0 0 that's 51,000 text in the word decided and when you do somebody from Times Square Church will be in contact with you if you so desire there will be a series of five minute videos sent to you explaining what it means to be born again in Christ and and where do you go from here how do you study your Bible for example what does it mean to be new in Christ how can you find fellowship with the people of God most if not all of those questions will be answered in these videos that will come your way so we encourage you to do that. The message I have today is a message that God spoke to my heart after listening to Pastor Tim Delina from Times Square Church our senior pastor on Sunday morning where he talked about sin he talked about the effects of sin he talked about the penalty of sin he talked about how sin is is is rarely even spoken about in a modern-day church today he has an expression that he often makes that we are not mistakers in need of correction we are sinners in need of salvation and I think for far too long we've avoided the topic of sin in the house of God now tonight I want to speak about sin but I don't want what I'm about to say to condemn those of you who have a living relationship with God and you are you are struggling the enemy is against you is against your home your marriage your children your mind your family whatever that is I'm speaking this message for the benefit of those who may be the situation that you find yourself in is because of sin because of we have so many prayer requests that have come in my you know you'll find I'll give you an example I'm I'm a Christian person and I'm trying to be a better employer or a better husband or father whatever it is and yet at the end of the tail end of the prayer request is I'm hooked on pornography please pray for me I want to suggest that in this particular instance the problem is sin and when you begin to deal with the sin it opens that channel of God's grace to come into your life God's power God's freedom Jesus said I've come that you might have life and you might have it more abundantly now the thief came to steal kill and destroy he's come to steal your eternal soul he's come to kill your hope for the future and your family's come to destroy any hope that you might have of ever amounting to that which God has called you to be in Christ but Jesus after these words says but I've come that you might have life and that you might have it more abundantly elsewhere in the scriptures he said I am the way the truth in the life and no man can come to the Father except by me except through me so I want to talk about sin that's the title of my sharing this evening let's talk about sin in order to talk about sin we have to go right back to the Garden of Eden to understand the origins of sin how it got into the human race what kind of a foundation is the sinful nature built upon and in Genesis chapter 3 you're going to be surprised some of you to see that God the gospel is already preached in Genesis chapter 3 you don't have to wait till the New Testament to hear the gospel preach God already preached it in the garden and you're going to see that in just a moment now father I pray God with all my heart God anoint me anoint my words God anoint the sharing and I ask you to break the yoke of slavery to sin break the yoke my God of whatever it is it's trying to destroy the people of God Lord we have to deal with this if we are serious about living for you if we are serious about serving you we can't avoid the topic of sin for you warned us in the scriptures and you said the wages of sin is death it still pays what it always paid sin leads to death and so God we're asking the second part of that verse said but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord so I pray God give me the ability to speak this so that people who are snared by sin might escape that trap and find life purpose meaning a future and an eternity in Jesus Christ and father we thank you God overpower the frailty of this human body the frailty of this human mind I offer my body as a living sacrifice to you I'm asking you to speak my voice means nothing yours is everything Lord speak to our hearts God peel back the layers of resistance in the hearts of many who are hearing this evening and God give us the grace to deal with truth to deal with reality for it's only in truth that we can be set free and we thank you for it in Jesus name now years ago we had a sheep ranch in Canada well it wasn't that much of a ranch I had about I had 68 we had 68 female sheep a couple of rams a bunch of goats and a duck and things like that one day my wife pastor

Teresa came into the barn and I had a sheep on its haunches when you take a sheep and you sit it down on its on its its back legs they become they become very docile they just kind of sit there and they don't move and so I had a can of spray disinfectant in my hand and I had a very very sharp knife she walked into the barn and she said to me what are what are you doing and I said well this this particular sheep it was a Suffolk that was the the the brand of the burden of not the burden but the is what I forget the word for just the type of sheep it was and it had developed a parasite under its nose just it was very pronounced it was right in the center of its nose the sheep have a very long snout and this particular kind of a parasite if you don't get it out it multiplies under the skin it goes in through the eye sockets and eventually into the ear canal and it will actually drive the sheep mad you'll look if the shepherd doesn't deal with it eventually the sheep will be running full speed into posts and beams and into barn walls because of the the buzzing that's going on inside its head because of these parasites it literally drives the sheep insane and it ultimately will run into things until it kills itself literally and I said to Pastor Teresa if I don't take this this parasite out now if I don't get it in its inception it will get into the the various canals in the head of the sheep and it will drive it absolutely crazy I remember she looked at me and she said at that time now it's a little different today but she said at that time I could never do that and I said well as a shepherd if I really do care for my sheep I have to do that I have to make a cut an incision about a two three inch incision I have to get in with a knife I have to dig this thing out stitch it together spray it with disinfectant and that poor sheep I mean it looked at me and they're so trusting and it had no idea what I was doing and it was painful there's no doubt about that and for a little while after the sheep was a little wary of me and I come into the barn of a kind of crowd in the back corner not realizing that I had saved its life that if I chose to do nothing I could have been like some shepherds are and said well hey I got 67 other sheep what does one matter why put myself through the pain of trying to extract this parasite that has gained a foothold in its in its in its nose but yet the true shepherd will take the knife when necessary pastor Tim Delina did that last Sunday the true shepherd would take the knife because the true shepherd sees the wolf coming and doesn't flee the true shepherd will will cut with the sword of the Word of God if it's necessary for your soul's sake not just so that we look good if you're sitting in the under the ministry of a false shepherd they'll just spend their whole time just telling you how wonderful you are as long as you keep filling the offering bucket they don't much care about your soul's condition if if you backslide if you fall away if you fail and you walk with God they don't much care because there's a lot of other people there that can keep their ministry active and alive but the true shepherd cares and the true shepherd will take the sword of God's spirit so I want you to receive it in that context I know I'm speaking to people online who are really hurting I know I'm speaking to people who are addicted and afflicted and there's torment in your mind at your home and your marriages are falling apart and you're you've got problems with your kids and but we need to before we even talk about what God can do in the miracle power of God let's talk about the necessity of dealing with sin remember John the Baptist was the forerunner to Christ and his message was repent repent means turn repent means agree with the Word of God repent means that your ways are not God's ways God's ways are higher than your ways and God's ways are different than your ways agree with the ways of God die to yourself that's what the baptism of John was all about die to yourself and start to live according to the will of God and until we are willing to die to ourselves to die to our old way of thinking and our old ways of doing things Jesus Christ will remain a far-off stranger there is really no living relationship with the Son of God until we have come through the waters of repentance repentance means I'm sorry for the way I've been living I I'm sorry for what I've done to other people it's not about what other people have done to me it's what I have done to other people I'm sorry for for living in rebellion to the revealed Word of God when I knew what God was speaking but I I chose my own way and that's where we start in Genesis chapter 3 beginning at verse 1 now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which God had made

and he said to the woman has God indeed said you shall not eat of every tree of the garden and the woman said to the serpent we may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden God has said you shall not eat it you shall not touch it lest you die then the serpent said to the woman you shall not surely die for God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened and when you will be like God knowing good and evil so when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was pleasant to the eyes and a tree desirable to make one wise she took of its fruit and ate and she also gave to her husband with her and he did eat now here is here is the first foundation of sin in the human race this is what separated men and women from God this is what God had to send his son into the world later on to die on a cross to pay the price for our sin it's when Adam and Eve made the conscious decision to defy the Word of God and the will of God for their lives they they fell prey to a lie the lie says you can do what you want to do outside of the established order of God and somehow not pay a consequence for it and I believe I've always believed the devil was a very attractive it describes his nature as a serpent a serpent of course has no ears and is guided by his tongue that's why he's described as a serpent but I feel in my heart now it's just my own feeling but I feel in my heart he was the anointed cherub there was a beauty about him and it's almost like he appeared to Adam and Eve and says well look at me I made my own decisions I chose to do it my way I stepped out from under the authority of God and look at me nothing has happened to me and Adam and Eve it says they saw that the tree was good for food and it was pleasant to the eyes and was desirable to make one wise and she took of its fruit and ate so the fruit that they ate of was a theological fruit that I can live outside of the Word of God I can defy the Word of God or maybe put it this way I can pick and choose what to believe from the Word of God I can believe what I want to believe and then I can disregard what I don't want to believe and somehow no consequence will come to me I can't tell you how many times I have seen people fall into this trap over the years as a Christian man as a pastor I have sat and reasoned with people and tried to help them to see the error of their way and and I it's heart-rending because time and again I've just watched them go off a cliff into spiritual disaster and some to this day are not even alive anymore knowing they should have known that the way they were going was going to take away their strength that was going to take away the relationship with God now the next thing that happens after they make the choice and so my question to you tonight we're listening online are you living in the light of what God has revealed to you in His Word or are you making excuses for it are you stepping outside of the lines of God's parameters for your life and somehow thinking there's going to be no consequence to it the numbers of people who just get involved in things thinking I can handle this it's not going to it's not going to take away the presence of God for me it's not going to destroy my life only to find out that they can't handle it you all all you have to do is give the devil one foothold in the door of your life and he will come into you like a flood before you know it verse 7 of Genesis 3 says then the eyes of both of them were opened and they knew that they were naked and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings so here's the second stage of sin the first is willful rebellion to the revealed Word of God has God said they knew what God said but they chose to do something else the second is making themselves another covering other than the covering that has been provided by God I want you to picture this for a moment they Adam and Eve I believe were covered by the glory of God that the glory that shone from Moses face when he came down from the mountain the glory that covered their nakedness because they were in the presence of the living God virtually every day and it was it was his presence his covering that covered them it covered their nakedness it covered them completely and when they sinned against God suddenly their covering was gone and they had to make another covering for themselves that is the origin of all religion in the world today apart from Jesus Christ it is man making his own covering his own covering that says oh I'm a good person and when I die the good is hopefully going to outweigh the bad I've never murdered anybody so why would God reject me from his

kingdom I go to church I even tithe I give good portions of all that I possess to others but you see none of these can save you you see you can't make your own covering and never get past and into the into the eternity of God because only one covering will suffice it's the covering of the shed blood of the Son of God Jesus Christ now Genesis chapter 3 verses 8 to 10 we see the third stage of sin now remember number one it's a conscious decision to walk outside of the revealed Word of God number two is making another covering declaring one's own righteousness in spite of the fact that the person is now in an unrighteous condition in the sight of God Genesis chapter 3 is the third stage of sin verses 8 to 10 it is hiding from both the presence and the voice of God and they heard the sound Genesis 3 8 they heard the sound of the God walking in the garden in the cool of the day and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord among the trees of the garden it's a type of a person who finds it very comfortable to hide in church and the Lord God called Adam and said to him where are you as a matter of fact pastor William used to preach it this way the actual Hebrew translation was Adam do you know where you are do you know what you've done do you know what you have become do you understand that you are now separated from the life of God do you know what's happened to you and he said so he said I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid because I was naked and I hid myself and so the next thing you find when people are living in sin is they start hiding now they don't mind going to church as long as the presence of God is not there and the voice of God is not challenging their sin I can't tell you the number of times over the last 25 or more years standing at the pulpit in Times Square Church when the presence of God just invaded the sanctuary I would watch people run out of the church during the worship because the presence of God had come I would watch them run out during the sermon because the presence of God the Word of God was now challenging their behavior and this is exactly what the third stage of sin is in the book of Genesis it's both hiding from the presence and from the voice of God and the sad thing is they were in the garden but they were hiding there are people who attend church today but they're still hiding from the presence and they're hiding from the voice of God and the fourth stage of sin is blaming others for our own actions now Pastor Tim spoke quite articulately about that on Sunday morning and you should listen to that message I think was called as the music changed so in chapter 3 again now in verse 12 it says the man said the woman whom you gave to me to be with me she gave me of the tree and I ate and the Lord said to the woman what is this that you have done and the woman said the serpent deceived me and I ate you know so the problem is now in the human race the problem of sin we live in a society today where everybody is blaming somebody else for their condition it's my father's fault that I'm the way I am it's my mother's fault it's the my former church's fault it's my boss's fault it's my wife's fault it's my husband's fault I'd be such a great husband if it wasn't for my wife I'd be such a great wife I'm sorry to laugh but that's just the reality of it you know that we we want to shift the blame for you know I've had people I had somebody in my office one time who was committing a grievous sin and looked at me with incredulously in a counseling session and said to me if she wasn't the way she was I wouldn't be doing this see there was no desire in his heart to take ownership for his own sin it was his sin that had broken the covering off of his home and it is sin that had broken the covering off of his marriage and was causing it to dissolve but he had chosen instead of taking ownership for his sin he had chosen to blame somebody else for it in this case his wife James chapter 1 verses 14 and 15 says each one is tempted when he's drawn away by his own desires and enticed then when desire is conceived it gives birth to sin and sin when it is full-grown brings forth death so let's go over the four points of sin again in the book of Genesis the conscious decision to defy the Word of God for our lives and the will of God for our lives secondly making another covering declaring ourselves righteous when we're not declaring ourselves clean when we're not declaring ourselves to be in right relationship with God when God's Word clearly tells us we're not in right relationship with him the third stage is hiding from the presence and the voice of God even in the house of

God that's why people gravitate to churches where they want a fire insurance they want the assurance that heaven's going to be their home in a sense at the end of the journey but they don't want the presence or the Word of God to challenge their behaviors their worldview or even how they're living their lives and fourthly blaming if sin becomes evident instead of dealing with it blaming somebody else for it I'm a drug addict because of this I'm an alcoholic because of that I shared with a person recently I said until you're willing to take ownership for your sin you will never be free Jesus said you should know the truth and the truth shall set you free and the inference of the word no implies in the Greek at least it's a heartfelt embracing you shall heartfeltdly embrace the truth about yourself about your condition about how why you're doing things about your relationship with God and how it's affecting the relationship around you with others now thank God in Genesis chapter 3 not only do we see the peril the pitfall in the fall of humanity we see the mercy of God it's absolutely amazing in Genesis chapter 3 and verse 21 it says and also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin and clothed them see Adam and Eve had clothed themselves in fig leaves I often think of how ridiculous they must have looked can you imagine these broad green leaves and they've made a like a hat like a lampshade for themselves and they've made skirts and whatever it looked like must have looked absolutely ridiculous you imagine they had the glory of God covering them and they exchanged it for fig leaves they exchanged it for like a plant and thinking somehow this has covered me somehow my bankruptcy before God is not going to be exposed I've made my my own covering now God could have could have exiled them as he did from the garden as he did all of humanity because of sin knowing what sin was going to produce in the human race he could have technically could have destroyed the whole thing and just recreated it all over again at that point you know why he didn't for God so loved that says it all for God so loved Adam and Eve for God so loved their offspring for God so loved the world God so loved the the the next generation the next generation the next generation right down to you and I that's why he didn't destroy the whole thing that's why in a sense evil sin has has been allowed to prosper it's only because of the mercy of God God knew what humanity would do once humankind men and women were living outside of the revealed will of God and we're blaming one another can't you see it on full display now in our society everybody is blaming somebody for everything nobody is taking ownership for anything anymore it's somebody else's fault that I'm this it's somebody else's fault that I'm that and they made their own covering and God could have justifiably just put them out of the garden with the fig leaves on them said go all the best to you but you see the mercy of God and God was pointing to something already in verse 21 because it said he made tunics of skin and clothed them he took in a sense the fig leaves off of them and put the skins of animals on them which was the first indication that a blood sacrifice was going to have to be made to cover the sins of humanity see these animals had to die they had to shed their blood they had to give their lives so that their skin could be used as a covering for the failures of Adam and Eve at this time and this was right after in Genesis chapter 3 verses 14 and 15 the gospel is preached did you know the gospel is preached in Genesis 3 your Bible college students in the sanctuary and many of you online you've studied your Bible you should know this the gospel was first preached in Genesis chapter 3 right in the garden before Adam and Eve were put out of the garden the gospel of Jesus Christ was preached Genesis chapter 3 verse 14 so the Lord God said to the serpent that's the devil himself because you've done this you are cursed more than all cattle and more than every beast of the field on your belly you shall go and you shall eat dust all the days of your life now I've I've often interpreted that it's my own interpretation but mankind humankind was created out of the dust and it was the curse in a sense you're going to spend your whole existence trying to devour the creation of God that which God raised out of the dust you're going to you're going to crawl on your belly on the earth you it's as if he was saying to Satan you could have lived in the heavens you were the anointed cherub there was there was none like you for beauty but instead of being where you were and where you

were created and what you're created to be you're going to now go on your belly on the earth and you're going to spend your whole existence during the lifespan of planet earth as it is you're going to be attempting to devour the thief has come to kill steal and destroy you're going to be attempting to devour men and women and children that's exactly what the devil is doing in our generation the only way to beat him is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ through a living relationship with the Son of God and he says in verse 15 I will put in between between you and the woman between your seed and her seed he shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel in other words this I'm God says in the Garden of Eden I'm going to have a people and from that people a Messiah is going to be born and through him a seed a righteous seed is going to come back into this world and I'm going to put in image to enmity between you between your seed and her seed her seed the seed of the woman which of course is Israel Jesus Christ was born through the seed of Jacob I'm going to put a division between you there's going to be one is going to live in light and the other is going to live in darkness one has an eternity in heaven with God the other has an eternity in hell with you and I'm going to I'm going to make a division between the two there's there's going to be no waffling in between the two as a serpent would like it to be but my people are going to live for me they're going to be a people of truth they're going to be redeemed by the blood they're going to be empowered by the Spirit of God and they're going to have power to stand against you and your lies that you have imbibed into the spirit of humankind in the Garden of Eden hallelujah hallelujah hallelujah and I'm going to send a Savior that's what he was saying in these verses and you will bruise his heel in Psalm 22 Jesus quoted it on the cross in Psalm 22 verse 16 he says dogs have surrounded me the congregation of the wicked is enclosed me they pierced my hands and my feet you will you will bruise his feet but he shall bruise your head he shall tread upon you he shall destroy you he shall destroy the reasonings that you have planted into those created in the image of God and he will triumph over you he will take captivity captive and give gifts unto men he will be a Redeemer and the scripture tells us in verses 30 and 31 of Psalm 22 listen to these words a posterity in the original King James says a seed shall serve him it will be recounted to the Lord for the next generation they will come and declare his righteousness to a people who will be born that he has done this a seed shall serve him a seed shall serve him so much challenge to you online tonight turn from your sin turn from that which would destroy you turn from living according to your own will in your own way turn from your rebellion to the words in the will of the Living God turn from trying to make yourself another covering that God says is not righteous turn from hiding from the presence in the voice of God turn from blaming others for the struggle that's come into your life and maybe even in your home because of your sin turn from your adultery turn from your pornography turn from your alcohol turn from your drugs turn from your bitterness turn from your unforgiveness turn from the lust in your heart and the lies on your lips turn to the Living God that was the message of John the Baptist that was the introduction to Jesus Christ and the people had the common sense to come streaming out of a religion that was hiding from God a whole religious system that had made its own covering a whole system that were hiding from the presence and the voice of God a whole system of blaming one another and they went and humbled themselves in the sight of God went down into the waters of baptism and when they came up John said to them behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world there is no beholding of him until there's repentance in the heart we're not mistakers in need of correction we're sinners in need of a Savior and so here's my question to you you can you can lay down in your own garden with your own coverings hiding from the voice of God and blaming others and you can do it for the rest of your life and sad to say your eternity will most likely not be with God in some cases or you can be among the seed that Jesus Christ spoke about in Psalm 22 the seed that recognized that God had to send his son to a cross to pay the price for the wrong things that you have done that the Bible calls sin the things you did the choices you made the coverings that you procured for

yourself the false reasonings that you allowed to get into your mind he had to send his son to die to pay a price to restore you and to give you back the covering that was lost in the Garden of Eden you know in the Garden of Eden they were banished from the tree of life it says lest they should live forever in this sinful condition they were banished from the garden and the covering was lost the covering of God was lost at the cross the tree of life was regained and the covering was given back and through Jesus Christ we're brought back into a right relationship with the living God and the glory of God becomes our covering again the blood of Christ washes away all of our sin we're brought back into relationship with God where we can actually hear his voice again in the cool of the day and we're no longer afraid to be challenged by his presence or by his words and we delight in our hearts with in living inside the boundaries of the Word of God we're no longer looking to see how far we close we can get to the edge without ending up in hell we now want to live as close to the center of those two borders as we can our delight is in the law of God the Word of God if God says it that's what we want to be if God tells us that is what we should do that's what we want to do we want to live inside the Word the will of God we want the covering that only Christ can provide that is ours at the cross and we want to stop blaming others and take responsibility for our own actions yes my somebody may have done something to me and I'm not responsible for what they did to me but I'm responsible for the unforgiveness and bitterness in my own heart and the unwillingness to release the debt as the Word of God says that I should and so will you be among the seed will you be among those who are technically back in the garden again with God technically covered our nakedness is covered our bankruptcy is covered our foolishness not failure in us all the things we've done are covered and we're declared the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus that would be blasphemous were not written in the Word of God it means we are as clean as God is in Christ Jesus you can't have it two ways that's what the Bible says we're the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and it gets even better than that God now opens his word again to us because we want his word and he gives us of his Holy Spirit the power to live in his word the power to obey his word the power to walk in his word the power to become everything that Adam and Eve lost because of sin oh thank God for the cross thank God for men and women tonight are just going to say Lord forgive me forgive me for what I have done forgive me for the sin that I have committed forgive me for despising your words creating my own covering making my own excuses for my behavior forgive me for blaming others for the way I behave Oh God in Jesus name would you restore me that's got to be your prayer today and I see in my spirit this long line of people coming out of Jerusalem down to Jordan where John was baptizing I see them coming and they've got robes that they've made for themselves and they've they've got all their excuses and everything has left them so empty just like this generation religion will always leave you empty and unsatisfied it's only a relationship with the Living God that will ever satisfy you and so here comes the line people and and John is baptizing them and they're going down under the water in other words I I give up I give up I give up trying to live like my own way and create my own reasonings and and and craft my own sense of right and wrong God I give up on all of this and they come out of the water and it's at that point in the scriptures that John says behold the Lamb of God behold the Lamb of God behold the Lamb of God Oh Jesus I love you Jesus I love you and I thank you God for making your words so clear I thank you God for giving this last day generation a choice and a clear choice an honest choice if we choose to live in darkness and we are without excuse but if we're willing to come to you and put away our ways and embrace you as Lord and Savior God Almighty I pray for so many listening tonight so many in so many places who have just had such a casual relationship with you God they've not taken seriously your word father I pray that you would give them the grace to open their hearts to you as a shepherd I plead with you I don't know what else to do I can see you actually in my in the spirit I see you you are like that sheep in my barn many many years ago and it didn't resist me you know and it didn't even understand and it was painful but it lived it lived see that's the key it lived it didn't

die it didn't go insane it didn't start running into walls I'm talking to people tonight some of you are you've been punching the walls in your in your apartment this week you know what I'm talking about I'm telling you why now you're punching the walls in your apartment something is in your mind something that doesn't belong there God didn't create you that way he didn't create you for that created you for a much higher purpose than what you're living now so I'm going to ask you who are online and I'm going to ask the people who are with me here in this sanctuary at our Bible school to pray this prayer out loud with me and mean it in your heart you don't have to understand every little paragraph of that you will eventually understand much more of the Word of God but you understand enough now to know that sin needed a sacrifice sin needed a Savior and God so loved you that he waited even through the course of history how many times could he have destroyed this world and been justified and the Bible says one day he's going to recreate the heavens and the earth he could have done it a thousand years ago but would have lost you God so loved you do you understand that God so loved you he created the entrance it back into eternal life and relationship with him don't try to create your own way pray this with me pray it now Lord Jesus Christ forgive me for the way I have lived and the things I have done I have sinned against you and I do deserve an eternal punishment but you so loved me that you sent your son into this world to die in my place and pay the price for my sin so that I could come back to you again I believe that you died in my place you paid the price for my sin and this day I open my heart I invite you into my life I thank you for forgiving me and I now confess you Jesus Christ as the Savior of my life the God of my present the God of my future the God with whom I will spend eternity in heaven when I die oh God give me the grace to live for you and to do it your way in Jesus name if you just prayed that prayer you are more than welcome to join us in a moment for communion where we celebrate the victory of Jesus Christ on the cross for you two thousand years ago and the promise of Christ to be your strength in this present day that you're now living and would you do me a favor would you just text the word decided to 51,000 5 1 0 0 0 text the word decided and just let us know let us help you we want to help you at Times Square Church we'd love to help you get started in this new walk with God we're going to continue to pray for you that these old sins wouldn't come back and try to govern your life anymore pray for you that you might have the grace to yield your lives to the will of God in the future pray that you might become everything that God destined you to be through his son Jesus Christ a shining light in the darkness of this we're going to pray that out of sorrow you'd be given joy out of confusion you'd be given clear thinking out of weakness you would become strong and out of the ashes of your present situation the beauty of God would become visible that's what the Bible promises that Christ in your life we're going to pray that you'd be given the strength to go through adversity whatever that's going to be and whatever it's going to mean there's a strength in God that this world knows nothing about and mostly we're going to pray that when we get to the throne of God one day you'll be there and we'll dance and leap like little children we'll sing and shout and rejoice and give God all the glory for what he alone has been able to do in your life I want you to know tonight that we love you and we love you because Jesus loves you we care see you in just a moment for communion together

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Video: <https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/OdJt6RUL1Z4.mp4>

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