



# What Do We Believe?

## Lesson 27

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## Lesson 27: Sin: Its Origin

### Scriptures:

Exodus 20:1-17; Nehemiah 1:6-7; Ezekiel 18:4; Jeremiah 11:6-17; Luke 11:39-52; John 8:42-47; II Peter 2:10; I John 1:8-10; I John 2:15-20; Revelation 21: 6-8

### Lesson Goals:

To assist the learner to understand that sin originates with Satan and with humans  
To assist the learner to understand the difference between God's will for us and Satan's will for us  
To assist the learner to understand the seriousness of sin

### Scripture Memory:

**For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... Romans 3:23**

### The Lesson:

God created humans with great potential. We can be good. Humans were created with the potential to live a perfect life with no sin. Jesus proved that. However the Bible says that everyone sins. That is part of human nature which changed when Adam and Eve sinned. So, if we do not live up to our God-given potential of not sinning, we fall short...or, we miss the mark.

If you shoot an arrow and it doesn't hit the center of the target, it is called **missing the mark**. Or, if it doesn't even make it to the target, it is **falling short**. The first sin was in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve did what God had asked them not to do. They missed the mark. God gave them the opportunity to live in a perfect world, and they didn't live up to His expectation. They fell short of God's expectation. Satan disguised himself as a beautiful snake and tempted them, and they followed the will of Satan rather than the will of God.

We should understand that Satan works in disguise. He doesn't introduce himself to us as God's enemy, the Devil; he always appears as someone or something that appears to be good. His intent is not to help us but to hurt us. Satan is all about tearing down, not building up. Satan is the original and best liar of all.

Satan is like a bad archery coach. He doesn't teach us to hit the mark...to be like God and not sin. He teaches us to miss the mark...to be like him and disobey God.

Someone might say, why did God make the mark so hard to hit? Did He want us to miss the mark? Absolutely not! God set the mark as He did, because He wants us to be the best that we can be. It takes strength to send the arrow all the way to the target. It takes concentration and good aim to hit the center of the target. The same is true of doing the best in life. God has given us the opportunity of living a wonderful life. He has created us with the strength and ability to be all that Jesus Christ was as a human. Anyone can be everything that humans are capable of being.

Is some sin worse than other sin? We can say for sure that all sin is bad. Even the things we call "small sins" are bad. If our behavior is not according to God's standard, it is bad. However, the Bible seems to tell us that some sins are more serious than others. Sins like murder, gossip, stealing and cursing God are very serious because they hurt others. Other sins that hurt only us, like overeating, pride or hypocrisy (pretending to be something we are not), do not seem to be as serious. Again, it is absolutely certain that with God, all sin is bad. Jesus condemned hypocrisy (pretending to be something we are not) in the religious leaders of His day. (Matthew 23:15)

So, where does sin lead? Sin hurts us in this life. Some people have been placed in prison for their sins. These sins break human laws as well as God's laws. Some suffer the consequences of their sins in this life

because they have mistreated their bodies by using drugs or in some other way. Sorrow and suffering in the world can be traced back to sin. Sorrow and suffering come either from our own personal sin, from someone else's sin, or from Adam and Eve's original sin.

We can also say for certain that sin leads to separation from God. It separated Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden in which God walked with them each day. Scripture teaches that God didn't send Adam and Eve from the garden just because they sinned, but also because their sin had changed their relationship with God. He could no longer allow them to live in the garden with the "tree of life" which would have guaranteed them eternal life. Since that day, all humans have been condemned to die. Without acceptance of the sacrificial death of Jesus on the cross, sin leads to eternal death.

Sin happens when we follow Satan, rather than God. So, is there a cure for sin? Can we hit the mark? The answer is definitely, "Yes!" Jesus, God's Son came to earth to make it possible for us to please God.

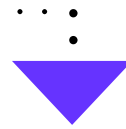
### Life Application:

God created humans with the potential to live a perfect life with no sin. Jesus proved that. However the Bible says that everyone sins. So what can we do? Should we just try harder to keep the ten commandments? Will that make us right again with God? No. The Bible says, "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all." (James 2:10) Have you ever tried to keep the ten commandments? How have you done? Have you kept them perfectly? Be careful with your answer. "Suppose we claim we are without sin. Then we are fooling ourselves. The truth is not in us. But God is faithful and fair. If we admit that we have sinned, He will forgive us our sins. He will forgive every wrong thing we have done. He will make us pure." (1 John 1:8-9)

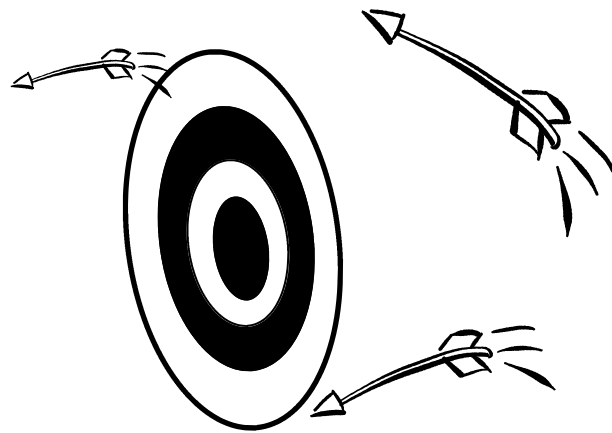
Paul explained to the church in Galatia that the law was a tutor, showing us we couldn't do it all and leading us to Jesus. (Galatians 3:24-26) We read in Hebrews that Jesus is the Author and Finisher of our faith? Our faith, our belief in God and things eternal, begins with Jesus. He completes it, brings it to perfection as well. In Jesus alone may we be found complete and whole.



Planning for Lesson 28  
Sin: God's  
Remedy

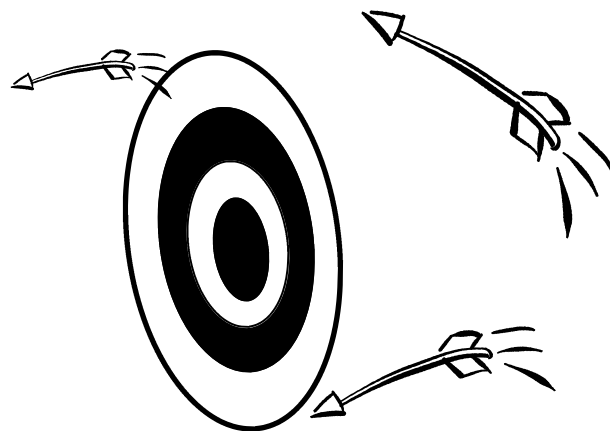


- ◆ **Memory Verse Activity** - Take a turn at darts or archery. When everyone has had an opportunity, go over the memory verse and lead right into the story. Be sure to review the memory verse afterwards.
- ◆ Play darts or set up an archery course.
- ◆ Go through The Roman's Road. Encourage your students to create a poster that explains the steps to salvation. Be sure to bring poster board and markers.
- ◆ Sing "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place," "I Need Thee Every Hour," "Have Faith in God," "When We Walk with the Lord," "Heaven Came Down."



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Romans 3:23**

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and it doesn't hit the center of the target,  
it is called ***m\_s\_\_n\_ the \_a\_k.***  
Or, if it doesn't even make it to the target,  
it is ***\_a\_l\_\_ng s\_or\_.***



If we do not live up to our God-given potential of not sinning, we fall short...or, we miss the mark.

# Word Search



S	O	R	F	R	E	O	R	H	S
A	L	L	A	N	N	I	S	H	O
R	O	M	L	N	S	I	H	S	G
K	L	A	L	O	N	E	O	Y	D
D	O	F	H	N	S	I	R	O	M
A	N	S	E	Y	R	O	T	R	O
H	S	D	E	N	L	R	A	T	Y
T	I	L	O	G	F	I	G	L	O
S	N	A	M	O	R	A	M	O	N
I	E	D	F	D	O	R	A	L	F

Complete the memory verse. Find the missing words in the word search above.

For \_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_  
 and \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_...  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 3:23

# Word Search



S	O	R	F	R	E	O	R	H	S
A	L	L	A	N	N	I	S	H	O
R	O	M	L	N	S	I	H	S	G
K	L	A	L	O	N	E	O	Y	D
D	O	F	H	N	S	I	R	O	M
A	N	S	E	Y	R	O	T	R	O
H	S	D	E	N	L	R	A	T	Y
T	I	L	O	G	F	I	G	L	O
S	N	A	M	O	R	A	M	O	N
I	E	D	F	D	O	R	A	L	F

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