

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Week #5: Is This a Sin or Not?

1) Last week you developed a summary of basics of your faith in Christ and how that has changed your life. Did you take up the challenge to share that brief testimony with someone this past week? What happened?

2) What are some of the major decisions that you have made in the last month? In the last year? "Major" is a relative term, so just share the decisions that seemed significant to you. These do not have to be "spiritual" decisions, they could be financial decisions, life-direction decisions, relationship decisions, etc.

3) Which of those major decisions have proven to be good decisions? What factors contributed to making those "good" decisions?

4) Which of those major decisions did not work out like you had hoped? What factors contributed to making those "bad" decisions?

Read Ephesians 5:3-7

5) Think of one decision or action from the recent past where you thought to yourself, perhaps in hindsight, "Is this OK? Is this a sin or not?" Share it with the group if you are willing.

6) In these verses from Ephesians, Paul makes it clear that any hint of sin in our lives is out of place for God's holy people. Consider what John tells us about our sin as followers of Jesus Christ...

Read 1 John 1:7-9

4) Because of our faith in Jesus Christ and our acceptance of His death on the cross, we are forgiven of our sin. How does knowing you are forgiven effect your attitude toward decisions you make and how you choose to think and act? How should it?

Read Ephesians 5:15-17

5) "What is the WISE thing to do?" is the question we should be asking ourselves instead of "Is this a sin?" Consider some of the major decisions you listed before, both "good" and "bad" decisions – if you had applied the question, "What is the wise thing to do?" how would those decisions have turned out differently?

6) What is one major decision that is weighing on you right now? Share with the group if you are willing (the rest of the group should LISTEN and try not to provide solutions.)

7) How would you answer the following questions with respect to this decision:

1. In light of my own past experience, what is the wise thing for me to do right now?
2. In light of my own current circumstances, what is the wise thing for me to do right now?
3. In light of my future hopes and dreams, what is the wise thing for me to do right now?

Take time to pray for one another.