



Title: Sin is the Worst
Series: People are the Worst
Judges 13-16; 2 Chronicles 1:7-12;

We wrapped up the People are the Worst series this week.
People are the worst because sin is the worst.

Ask, Why are we so innately desperate for a life of perfection and without pain? (We innately know that we were initially created perfect.)

Read Genesis 1:27–28 ESV

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

We are all image bearers of God. And sin has distorted/disfigured our lives.
How would you describe or explain being an image bearer of God?

So, we try to find a way out of our sin and restore us to perfection.

Judges 13-16 (give a brief overview)

Samson – a child dedicated to God from birth (an angel announces his birth) He will deliver the Israelites from the Philistines. (born to a barren woman). He was the last of the judges of Israel.

He has incredible strength. He tore a lion to pieces.

He struck down 1000 with the jawbone of a donkey.

Judges 15:14–15 ESV

When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him. Then the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon him, and the ropes that were on his arms became as flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands. And he found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, and put out his hand and took it, and with it he struck 1,000 men.

Samson was prone to wander – he chooses two wives from among the Philistines. Delilah is persistent and gets him to expose the secret to his strength.

Judges 16:17 ESV

And he told her all his heart, and said to her, "A razor has never come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb. If my head is shaved, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak and be like any other man."

Samson reveals all his heart to the enemy. The shaving of the head brings about weakness. He is weakened and God's power leaves. They gouge out his eyes. He is reduced to the role of an animal in grinding.

1. If sin overpowered Samson, sin can overpower you too. Samson reflects best the omnipotence of God in human form. (eyes gouged out, reduced to a shell of who he once was, he prayed to God and asked for supernatural power again) Outstretched arms willing to die for Israelites.

Read Judges 16:28–30 ESV

Then Samson called to the Lord and said, "O Lord God, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes." And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. And Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines." Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.

Say, Well, maybe if I was just smarter?

Read 2 Chronicles 1:7–12 ESV

In that night God appeared to Solomon, and said to him, “Ask what I shall give you.” And Solomon said to God, “You have shown great and steadfast love to David my father, and have made me king in his place. O Lord God, let your word to David my father be now fulfilled, for you have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth. Give me now wisdom and knowledge to go out and come in before this people, for who can govern this people of yours, which is so great?” God answered Solomon, “Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked for possessions, wealth, honor, or the life of those who hate you, and have not even asked for long life, but have asked for wisdom and knowledge for yourself that you may govern my people over whom I have made you king, wisdom and knowledge are granted to you. I will also give you riches, possessions, and honor, such as none of the kings had who were before you, and none after you shall have the like.”

Say, Maybe if we were smarter and wiser, we could master our lives. Actually, we try to convince ourselves that we can master our sin.

Solomon was the last great king of Israel. But Solomon was not wise enough. He caved to cultural pressure and his own flesh. 1000s of wives that were used as business deals and political reasons for treaties.

2. If sin outsmarted Solomon, sin can outsmart you too. Solomon’s wisdom and knowledge was not enough.

Maybe, I just need to love God more. I will show Him how devoted I am and how good I can be to beat out sin. Solomon referred to his dad, David and how much you God loved him and dad loved You.

1 Samuel 13:14 - A man after God’s own heart.

David talks about how humble he is. Psalm 62:9 – Psalm 18:1; Psalm 4:7- devoted; Psalm 23:6 – faithful; Psalm 119:34 - obedience

In spite of David’s deep love for God, he still loved himself more. Summarize his role with Bathsheba and Uriah.

Read Acts 13:22 ESV

And when he had removed him (King Saul), he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, ‘I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.’

3. If sin seduced David, sin can seduce you too.
However, David was repentant. Psalm 25:11 – repentance is key. David knew that God was the God of the second, third, fourth . . . chances.

Say, The strongest, wisest, and most devoted still fell prey to sin.

Many times, the Bible is held up as “just do this and you can live sin free.” But we see time and time again throughout Scripture where people failed miserably.

The secret to abundant life is not how we live but Who died for us. We can’t but Christ can.

Jesus is the more . . . and He restores. We are best when Christ is reflected through our lives. John the Baptist reminds us that - He must increase and I must decrease.

Take prayer requests and allow time for prayer.