

Missing the Mark

AT CAMP, GAMES AND ACTIVITIES are often the highlights of the day! In Archery, the object is usually to hit the center of the target, called the bull's-eye. If you have not had much practice, it can be very difficult to hit the mark you think that you are aiming towards on the target.



In a similar way, sin is missing the mark, because sin is not reaching God's standard of perfection.



What is the worst sin you think someone might commit?



Search It!

Every sin is equal to God. Sin is anything you do, say, or think that displeases God or breaks His Law. When you trust Christ as your Savior, you will still sin, because you still have the sin nature with which you were born.

Do you remember from lesson one what the sin nature is?

- A. The desire not to sin against things in nature
- B. The want-to or desire to sin
- C. A hatred for nature walks

Is there a person that you feel really close to? When you have sin in your life, you lose fellowship or closeness with God. God will not hear the prayers of those that continually sin, until you pray and admit what you have done, and ask God to help you. Psalm 66:18 "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:"

In order to have a clear conscious, when you sin, confess, or admit the sin to God, not to get saved again, but so you can be right with God. Nothing should ever be put between you and God. Fellowship is different than having a relationship with Him. A relationship with God starts the minute you get saved and never stops. Fellowship depends on your own willingness to follow Him. (1 John 1:6).

Read 1 John 1:9. What should you do if you have sinned after getting saved?

A. Get saved again B. Do good things to make up for sin C. Confess the sin

True or False? Sin causes you to lose your relationship with God. _____

Read Psalm 103:12. How far were sins taken away when you were saved?

(These two directions can never meet, which shows that forgiveness is forever.)

A. As far as the North is to the South

B. As far as the East is from the West

C. As far as your house is to camp

If a believer sins, he or she will lose which of the following?

A. Relationship with God B. Closeness with God



When God forgives sin, His forgiveness is once and for all (Hebrews 10:10). You do not have to live in constant guilt over past sins. However, you should not try to go back to doing the sins that you used to commit. God does not give you liberty (freedom) to sin without any consequences. God can help you say no to sin, but it is your choice. Even though God forgives sin, you still need to have a serious view of sin. Sin displeases God, even if you are saved. A believer that continues to live in constant sin will be chastised by God. This means that God will give consequences with the purpose of bring you back to Him, NOT to condemn you to hell. God corrects His children because He loves them, but He will NOT take away salvation to anyone who has received it.

True or False? A child of God can do anything he or she wants without getting any consequences? (Galatians 5:13 & 1 Peter 2:16) _____

True or False? A Christian cannot lose their salvation by sinning. _____

Take time to thank God that salvation is forever and that He forgives sin. Because God has done so much for us, we should do good things and stay away from sin to show Him how thankful we are.

Explain why someone who has gotten saved should not want to sin.



TRY THIS!

Take a piece of paper (a paper plate works well). Use a marker to make a dot in the center of the paper. Place the paper on the ground about 7 feet away. Use a penny or small crumbled paper ball and try to toss your object so it lands on the dot. Do this about ten times.

(If you did the “try this” activity, answer the following questions.)

1. How many times did you miss the dot? _____
2. Was it easy to miss the mark (dot)? _____

Remember, sin is when what we do misses the mark of meeting God's standard (perfection). Nobody is perfect, so we need God's help to do right.

3. Is it easier to sin or to do right things? _____

We need God's help to stay away from sin. If you have accepted Jesus as the only way to Heaven and He has saved you, take some time this week to ask God to help you when you are tempted to do something wrong.

If you have not gotten saved, why not trust in Jesus now? He is waiting to forgive you of your sins. No sin can be in Heaven, but when you get saved, Jesus makes you clean and takes away the punishment you deserve because of sin.