

SERMON NOTES:

QUESTIONS:

1. **For newer groups:** What do you think you value most in life right now?
For long-term groups: Go around the circle and answer for one another: What do you think I value most in life right now? What makes you say that?
2. What is your reaction to the statement, "It is impossible to embrace sin and follow Jesus"? How do you think Genesis 4:6-7, 2 Peter 1:3-10, and 1 John 2:1-2 fit into this conversation?

3. Read Romans 13:11–14, Ephesians 4:22–24, and Colossians 3:5–14. Each of these passages uses the language of “putting off” and “putting on.” Why do you think following Jesus requires both? What are you putting off and putting on in your life right now?

4. Where do you already feel excitement about the things God is doing? What is one part of God’s kingdom you wish you were more invested in or attentive to?

CASE STUDY:

A friend confides in you:

“I’m really ashamed to admit this, but I have a problem with pornography. After Sunday’s sermon, I started asking myself, ‘Am I embracing sin?’ I feel guilty about it, I ask God for forgiveness—so part of me thinks, isn’t that following Jesus? But then I keep going back to it, and I know I can’t embrace both sin and Jesus.

It feels like forgetting to bring a change of clothes when you take a shower. You take off the dirty clothes, get clean, and then realize you have nothing clean to change into! That’s where I feel like I am. Putting off sin seems simple enough—stop doing it. But I keep putting back on my dirty clothes. I need to figure out what the clean clothes are and put those on—how do I do that?”

How would you respond to your friend?