

## “Respectable” Sins – Week 4

### Pop Quiz:

#### Multiple Choice

- 1) The word that best describes the remedy for discontentment is:  
*a. faith                      b. godliness                      c. humility                      d. a, b, and c*
- 2) The Greek word/phrase for anxiety/worry is:  
*a. worreek                      b. commute                      c. merimnao                      d. contentment*
- 3) Trying to do things on our own, apart from God, will most likely lead to:  
*a. frustration                      b. anxiety                      c. discontentment                      d. a, b, and c*
- 4) Which of the following sins do you think God views as acceptable, excusable, or “respectable”:  
*a. discontentment                      b. pride                      c. neither                      d. none*

### Impatience and Irritability

What situations do you face, from time to time, that tempt you to be impatient? In what ways do you tend to express impatience? How do you respond to someone who is impatient with you? What should we use as our example of how to respond? (hint: Read 1 Peter 2:23)

In his book, *Respectable Sins*, Jerry Bridges writes, “Irritability describes the frequency of impatience, or the ease with which a person can become impatient over the slightest provocation.” With that definition in mind, do you agree that irritability is a sin? Why or why not? What lies at the root of our impatience and irritability? (hint: Read Gal 5:17)

What do the following verses reveal about how God wants you to respond when you are tempted to be impatient or irritable? (Read 1 Cor 13:4, Gal 5:22-23, Eph 4:1-3, 1 Thes 5:14)

### Anger

In God’s Word there are instances when anger is demonstrated as righteous anger, and instances when anger is demonstrated as sinful anger. Read the following verses and identify which demonstrate righteous anger and which demonstrate sinful anger.

Matt 5:22

Nehemiah 5:1-9

Exodus 32:19

Gal 5:19-20

What do you think differentiates “righteous anger” from “sinful anger”?

Read Eph 4:26, Eph 4:31, & Col 3:8; What are you directed to do with your anger? How are you to do that? What do you risk if you do not? (hint: see Eph 4:27) What do you see as the tangible result of not being obedient to God in addressing anger?

### Unforgiveness

How do you naturally respond when you or someone you love is offended? How do you naturally respond when you have offended someone? What do you think is the root of those natural responses?

What are we instructed to do, as believers in Jesus Christ, if we have offended someone? (Read Matt 5:23-24) What are we, as believers in Jesus Christ, instructed to do when someone offends us? (Read Eph 4:32, Col 3:13) Reflect for a moment on how much Christ has forgiven you.

Read Matt 18:21-35 From Jesus’ parable, what can we learn about forgiving others as God has forgiven us? What did it cost God to forgive you? If every sin we commit, regardless of how insignificant it seems to us, is an assault on God’s infinite glory, how should we then live? How should we then forgive others?