

Wretched Worldview

Sanctification: Battling Subtle Sins

Study Guide

Introduction

Welcome to the study guide for Wretched Worldview's *Sanctification: Battling Subtle Sins* DVD. This guide has been created to help you maximize the content of the *Sanctification: Battling Subtle Sins* DVD.

The chapter questions are intended to be used in a homeschool setting, but can also be used for small groups or Sunday school classes. For the homeschool student, the answers should include biblical references when possible.

The Going Deeper questions are designed to encourage deeper thinking and understanding of the subject. The goal is to strengthen the viewers' biblical worldview and instill skills to think biblically.

An answer guide and test are also available in this download.

A Word from Wretched

Well done!

Most people are as interested in the word "holiness" as they are the word "audit." You are doing something unusual indeed, but well worth the effort.

Here is what Peter would say to you.

Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:5-8)

Peter says it is good to pursue holiness. Not only will you grow in your knowledge of Jesus by pursuing holiness, but there is an extra added bonus:

Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you. (1 Peter 5:10)

By practicing godliness, you will not stumble and you will know you are His. In other words, sanctification grants us assurance.

Congratulations and well done. You are about to embark on your continuing journey to mortify sin in your body that you might glorify Him with your life. That is commendable indeed!

Todd Friel
Host of Wretched Radio & TV

CHAPTER ONE: Pride & Humility

1. The amount of pride we have typically indicates what?
2. According to Todd, why is pride the one sin that keeps an individual from salvation?
3. Why is pride such a struggle for human beings?
4. Why should we love others more than ourselves?
5. How can we start practicing humility in our relationships with other people?

GOING DEEPER:

1. Do you agree that Facebook and Twitter contribute to our problem with pride? If so, explain how.
2. Can social media (like Facebook and Twitter) be used for God's glory and if so, how?
3. Evaluate how well you love others by comparing yourself against the definition of love found in I Corinthians 13. Be as honest as you can in assessing your thoughts and actions. Think about the people or situations that you most struggle with in showing this kind of love, and then write out some ways you can be more loving in each area. Be as specific as you possibly can. Afterward, spend some time praying about how you can better demonstrate this kind of love in your relationship with others.

Love is patient and kind.

How I struggle in this area:

How I can be more loving in this area:

Love does not envy or boast.

How I struggle in this area:

How I can be more loving in this area:

Love is not arrogant or rude.

How I struggle in this area:

How I can be more loving in this area:

Love does not insist on its own way.

How I struggle in this area:

How I can be more loving in this area:

Love is not irritable or resentful.

How I struggle in this area:

How I can be more loving in this area:

Love doesn't rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

How I struggle in this area:

How I can be more loving in this area:

CHAPTER TWO: Self-Esteem...or Idolatry?

1. According to author David M. Tyler, does the Bible support the idea of people having a lack of self-esteem? Write out the Bible verse that was used to support this view.
2. According to Tyler, how does the Bible describe what we refer to as lack of self-esteem? What Bible verse was used to support this view?
3. What were the three problems discussed in this segment? Explain each one to the best of your ability.
4. List the five x-ray questions that can help us discover the idols in our lives.
5. Why are these types of “x-ray” questions so important for our sanctification process?

6. List the seven things we should do after identifying an idol, and explain each one in your own words.

7. One of the answers for the above question was “keep preaching the gospel to yourself.” Why do we continually need to repeat this particular point?

GOING DEEPER:

1. Do an inventory of your heart by answering the five x-ray questions to see if there are any idols sitting on its throne. Be honest with yourself. When you're done, spend some time praying about your answers and work your way through the seven things you do after discovering an idol.

1. What I most love and hate:

2. What I most desire, crave, lust for, and wish for:

- e. List all the imperatives (commands) you see in verses 15-17.

- 3. Were any of the idols you discovered in Question 1 found in the list Paul describes as idolatry?

- 4. If you are saved, how does Paul describe you in vs. 12?

- 5. Write out some ways you can be more intentional about putting on the things mentioned in vs. 12. Then, take some time to pray about how your life can be a better reflection of who you already are in Christ.

CHAPTER THREE: Is Technology an Idol?

1. What is the difference between mediated communication and immediate communication?
What were the examples given for mediated communication?
2. How did Tim Challies, in his book *The Next Story*, describe mediated communication?
3. According to Tim Challies, why is immediate communication good for us?
4. What were the three questions Todd asked to determine if mediated communication is an idol in your life?
5. Why is it so important for the church in particular to practice immediate communication more than mediated communication?

6. How do you get over your idolatry of technology and self?

GOING DEEPER:

1. Todd used the word *koinonia*. Look up the word in a dictionary and write its definition and language of origin.
2. The essence of *koinonia* can be found in the following verses. Look them up and record what you learn about Christian fellowship.
Romans 12:10-13

I Peter 4:8-10

I Thessalonians 5:11, 14

3. Compare what you learned from the verses above on Christian fellowship with how Tim Challies describes mediated communication from Question 2. Write down your observations.

CHAPTER FOUR: Criticism or Encouragement?

1. According to Todd, how does the spiritual gift of encouragement (Romans 14, Ephesians 4) capture the concept of criticism?
2. What is the difference between a preference and a sin? What example did Todd give? Can you think of another example?
3. What is (or should be) the point of confronting another person about their sin?
4. What is the difference between criticism and encouragement?
5. List the ten important steps to take before confronting someone on their sin.

6. Explain how gospel-centered confrontation is different than plain old confrontation.

GOING DEEPER:

1. Read the following Scripture passages to learn important principles for gospel-centered confrontation. Record your observations.

Proverbs 15:1

Matthew 18:15-17

Galatians 6:1-2

Ephesians 4:25

Philippians 2:3-4

I Thessalonians 5:14-15

Hebrews 3:13

James 5:19-20

2. How well do you give and receive confrontation regarding sin? Does it help to view confrontation as an element of encouragement instead of criticism? Write your thoughts below and then spend some time praying about your attitude in this important area of sanctification.

CHAPTER FIVE: A Judgmental Heart

1. What is the underlying issue for those who struggle with a judgmental attitude?
2. List the ten questions from Trevin Wax that discern a judgmental heart.
3. What is the solution for a judgmental attitude?
4. Explain the two things of which the gospel reminds us.
5. How does remembering the gospel help cure a judgmental attitude or angry disposition?

GOING DEEPER:

1. As honestly as you can, answer the ten questions to discern if you have a judgmental heart. After you have answered the questions, take some time to pray about what you discovered regarding the condition of your heart in this area.
 1. Am I more likely to see the sin in others than my sin?
 2. When I pray, am I more likely to pray for God's judgment on others rather than marvel at God's amazing grace toward me?
 3. Am I overtly critical toward others while I give myself a pass or an excuse to justify my own sin?
 4. Does my own sin ever lead me to deep remorse and repentance?
 5. Do I have people whom I allow to hold me accountable for my sin and unforgiving heart?
 6. Do I have a tendency to be unforgiving while expecting others to forgive me quickly?
 7. Do I find joy in exposing sin in others?

8. When others see how I deal with people, will they think God is mighty to save or that God would never forgive them and there is no hope for forgiveness?

9. Do I receive correction humbly?

10. Before I correct others, do I spend time in God's Word and prayer asking the Holy Spirit to expose my sin so that I might repent?

2. There is a difference between being judgmental and rightly judging the behavior or teaching of other Believers. Read the following passages on judging and record your observations.

Matthew 7:1-5

John 7:24

Romans 2:1-3

Romans 14:1-13

I Corinthians 5:9-13

James 4:11-12

Jude 3-4

3. Based upon the verses above, summarize the difference between being judgmental and biblical judging.

CHAPTER SIX: Receiving Criticism Well

1. Why do you think it's so hard for most people to receive criticism?
2. In what two ways can criticism be a mercy from God?
3. What does it mean to receive criticism well? In other words, what does it look like in practice?
4. According to this segment, how does a Christian grow in their ability to receive criticism well?
5. How does the gospel help us receive criticism well?

6. Why should a Christian be grateful to receive criticism?

7. How should a Christian handle unfair criticism?

8. If you really struggle with receiving criticism well, how do you mature in this area?

GOING DEEPER:

1. The book of Proverbs is full of descriptions of those who receive criticism, discipline, reproof and wisdom well (often called *wise*) as opposed to those who don't (often called *fools*). Look up the following Proverbs and write down what you learn about a wise person as opposed to a fool. The first one is done for you.

	A Wise Person	A Foolish Person
Proverbs 1:7	Fears the Lord	Despises wisdom and instruction
9:8		
12:1		
13: 1		

A Wise Person	A Foolish Person
13:18	
14:16	
15:5	
15:32	
18:2	

2. Based upon the verses above, summarize the wise person and the foolish person in regard to receiving criticism, correction, or discipline.

3. If you were to ask your parents, pastor and/or youth leader which person you most resemble (wise or foolish) what do you think they'd say? Write down your answer, and give the reasons you think they'd give you. If you feel comfortable, ask them what they think and give some serious thought to their response. After all, that's what a wise person would do!

CHAPTER SEVEN: Respectable Sins

1. Give three reasons why making a game out of sin, such as the game described in this segment, is wrong. Use Scripture to support your answer.
2. List the seven modern day “sins” mentioned in this segment, those things which are deemed wrong by society’s standards. Can you think of others?
3. Todd quoted Revelation 21:8. According to this verse, who will have a part in the lake of fire?
4. What were the seven “respectable” sins mentioned in this segment?

5. Explain why these could be considered “respectable”.

GOING DEEPER:

1. What exactly does the Bible say about these so-called respectable sins? Using a concordance, find at least three verses for each of the sins listed in Question 4. Write out each verse so you can clearly see what God thinks of each of these sins.

- 1. Wrath (anger):**

- 2. Greed:**

- 3. Sloth (laziness):**

4. Pride:

5. Lust:

6. Envy:

7. Gluttony:

2. What about you? How are you doing in your sanctification in regard to the seven “respectable” sins? Take some time to honestly evaluate yourself by writing down how you struggle in each area. Also include any progress you’ve seen as the Holy Spirit has been working in your life.

(Of course, this only applies if you’re saved! If you’re not saved, please go to www.wretchedradio.com where we can help you better understand what salvation is and how you can be saved.)

WRATH (ANGER):

GREED:

SLOTH (LAZINESS):

PRIDE:

LUST:

ENVY:

GLUTTONY:

5. Can you think of other sins that can masquerade as something good?

GOING DEEPER:

1. Let's look at how Satan deceives people. Read Genesis 3:1-6 and write down everything you observe about his tactics in deceiving Adam and Eve.
2. As best you can, evaluate yourself to discern if you have any sin masquerading in your life as something good. Write down your insight.
3. What should you do when you recognize this kind of sin in your life? Include Scripture to support your answer.

CHAPTER NINE: Envy

1. What sin is at the root of the sin of envy?
2. List the three components to envy, according to Tim Challies.
3. According to Mr. Challies, people are not proud of being rich, or clever, or good looking. What *are* they proud of then?
4. Mr. Challies states that there are only two possible outcomes when you compare yourself to another. What are they?
5. Why does Todd say that pride is the hinge on which salvation swings?
6. What does envy expose about us?
7. Why does envy expose our heart like no other sin, according to Mr. Challies?

8. How can envy cause us to act out against God?

9. Why do we think we deserve what others have?

10. How can someone get off the throne of their life and stop worshipping themselves?

GOING DEEPER:

Begin by asking yourself...do I suffer from the sin of envy?

1. Read James 3:14-17. How does James describe jealousy and selfish ambition?

What often comes with jealousy and selfish ambition?

James contrasts jealousy and selfish ambition with wisdom from above. What does this kind of wisdom look like?

2. Read Galatians 5:16-25 and answer the following questions.

What is the result of walking by the Spirit?

What two things are in opposition to each other?

What are the deeds of the flesh?

According to this passage, who will not inherit the kingdom of God?

In verse 21, the NASB uses the word *practice* to describe the behavior of those who will not inherit the kingdom of God. Check out some commentaries to discover what the word *practice* means in this context.

In verse 22, Paul contrasts the deeds of the flesh with what?

What have those who belong to Christ Jesus done with their flesh?

What does this mean for our everyday lives?

3. How can you apply these two passages to your life, particularly in the areas of envy and jealousy? After you write down your thoughts, take some time to pray about what the Lord has revealed to you through His Word.

CHAPTER TEN: Is Being Shy a Sin?

1. What was the crux of the young lady's question at the beginning of this segment?
2. List the six points of encouragement Todd gave to people who are naturally shy.

GOING DEEPER:

1. List some words that can describe someone who is shy:
2. Often times, fear is at the heart of shyness or timidity. Explain in detail what a shy or timid person is afraid of.
3. What does Proverbs 29:25 say about the fear of man?
4. Explain how the fear of man can bring or lay a snare.

5. What does 2 Timothy 1:7 say regarding timidity?

6. According to the context of 2 Timothy 1, why have we been given a spirit of power and love and discipline?

7. Read 2 Timothy 2:1. What admonition does Paul give to Timothy? How can this verse encourage someone who is naturally shy or is timid due to fear?

CHAPTER ELEVEN: Accidental Pharisee

1. Why is the local church such an important part of a Believer's spiritual growth?
2. Todd mentioned the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector. Read the account in Luke 18:9-14 and answer the following questions:

Who is telling the parable?

What kind of people was He telling this parable to? (See verse 9 for a description):

What was the Pharisee's prayer?

How would you describe the Pharisee's prayer?

What was the tax collector's prayer?

Describe his body language while he prayed:

How would you describe the tax collector's prayer?

What did Jesus say about these two men?

GOING DEEPER:

1. Jesus had a lot to say about the scribes and Pharisees of His day. Read one of His descriptions of them in Matthew 23:1-8 and write down everything you learn about them.

How did they put heavy loads on the people?

What was the purpose of broadening their phylacteries and lengthening their garment tassels?

2. How did Jesus counter this attitude and behavior in verses 11 & 12?
3. Can you think of examples of modern-day Pharisee-ism (besides the ones Todd mentioned in this segment)?
4. What is at the core of Pharisee-ism? In other words, describe the heart attitude of a Pharisee.
5. Do you struggle with being a Pharisee? Most of us do in one way or another. Write out a prayer to the Lord asking Him to help you recognize those areas where you have a tendency to think or act like a Pharisee. Ask Him also for the grace to confess it as sin and turn away from it, so that you may grow closer to being like Jesus and less like a Pharisee. (Use the other side of the paper for more space.)

CHAPTER TWELVE: The Cost of Your Sin

1. Todd mentioned three things that the cross of Christ clarifies. What are they?
2. Explain how the crucifixion of Christ allows God to be just in his judgment of sin and at the same time be able to justify sinners?
3. How did Paul Washer explain repentance?

GOING DEEPER:

1. Isaiah 53 is a prophesy about Jesus' suffering and crucifixion. Read the entire chapter, and then answer the following questions:

What did Jesus do for us according to verses 4-7? (List everything that is mentioned in these verses.)

How did Jesus respond to his suffering?

Which verse states Jesus' innocence?

How did God the Father view Jesus' suffering and death?

According to verses 10-12, what was the purpose for Christ's suffering and death?

2. Summarize your thoughts on Jesus' suffering and crucifixion. Think about what this means for you personally. Include any other Scripture passages that help you understand what Jesus went through to pay the penalty for your sin and the implications this has for your life.
3. Look up the following verses on repentance and write down what you learn about this important word.

Luke 13:1-5

Luke 24:46-47

Acts 3:19

Acts 17:30

2 Peter 3:9

James 4:8-10

2 Corinthians 7:9-11

2 Timothy 2:25

4. Have you repented of your sin and trusted in Jesus Christ for your eternal salvation? If not, please think about your sin. Think about how you've violated God's Ten Commandments over and over again in word, thought, and deed. Then, think about what Jesus did on the Cross so you could be forgiven of your sins – all of them. Take some time to reflect and talk to God about the state of your soul. Nothing is more important or urgent right now than giving serious thought to this issue.

If you have repented and put your trust in Jesus Christ, take a few moments to worship the Lord for what He has done for you. Thank Him for his amazing grace. Praise Him for His kindness and love toward you. Write out your thoughts in a prayer, or a psalm of praise.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN: Our Relentless War Against Sin

1. How does battling sin indicate you're genuinely saved?
2. What is a besetting sin? Give several examples of besetting sins.
3. List the six reasons God allows us to continue to battle sin, according to Tommy Clayton, and explain each in your own words.

GOING DEEPER:

1. In order to battle sin in the power of the Holy Spirit, we must engage in the battle according to God's Word. Read Ephesians 6:10-18 and answer the following questions.

What is the first command given in this passage and how are we to obey this command?

What is the reason to put on the armor of God?

How does Paul describe our struggle?

Describe each piece of spiritual armor, and include as much information as the text gives you. (You may want to read verses 13-17 in several different translations to get a better understanding of what each piece represents.) Also draw a picture of that armor in the box below each piece. This may sound like a silly exercise, but it will help you better remember what each piece of armor represents. Don't be shy, draw away!

Belt of

Breastplate of

Shoes for

**Shield of
- Used to**

Helmet of

Sword of
- Which is

What do you think the connection is between vs. 13-17 and vs. 18?

List everything you learn about prayer from verse 18.

2. Ask yourself honestly how you're doing battling sin and the enemy of your soul, Satan. Here are some questions to get you started on your self-reflection. Write down your thoughts, and then spend some time praying through some of your reflections.

Am I experiencing a growing hatred for my sin?

Am I intentionally engaging in the battle of sin?

Am I experiencing victory over sin?

Am I giving prayer the priority that God's Word commands?

Am I remembering the gospel as I battle my sin?

If you want further information about how to become a Christian, please go to www.wretched.tv. You'll find helpful (and free!) information on what it means to be a Christian and how you can know for sure you're saved.