

**Facilitator:**

1. Open with Prayer
2. Welcome any newcomers
3. Try to keep your discussion to an hour and a half at the most.

Facilitator: Encourage your members to BRING THEIR BIBLES and use them during Connect Group.

**CONNECT Group study questions for March 11, 2018****Title: Sin is “Sin” – Romans 7:6-13 (NASB)****Read: Romans 7:6-13**

But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.

7 What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, “You shall not covet.” 8 But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for apart from the Law sin is dead. 9 I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died; 10 and this commandment, which was to result in life, proved to result in death for me; 11 for sin, taking an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. 12 So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

13 Therefore did that which is good become a cause of death for me? May it never be! Rather it was sin, in order that it might be shown to be sin by effecting my death through that which is good, so that through the commandment sin would become utterly sinful.

Review: Read the notes from Pastor Peppy’s lesson, Sin is “Sin”, and share what God revealed to you from his message.

Question: We have learned that sin is missing the mark or falling short of the perfect righteousness of God. (Romans 3:23)

More specifically, what is sin in relation to the Law of God? Facilitator: Include the second half of Romans 7:6 in your discussion.

Read: Matthew 5:17-20

Question: What words do people use to justify, rationalize, or shift responsibility for sinful behavior?

Why do people avoid calling it sin? Why is society at war with the Ten Commandments?

Question: What’s unique about “You shall not covet” that the Apostle Paul chose it over any of the other nine commandments to illustrate how the Law reveals sin?

Read: Genesis 4:6-8

Question: Paul wrote, “I would not have come to know sin except through the Law,” yet Cain was warned about sin long before the Law was given.

Was sin in some way different after the Law was given? How was it different or not different?

Read: Matthew 5:17-48; Matthew 22:37-40; Romans 1:17

Question: As if keeping the Law wasn't already impossible, Jesus tightened the screws even more by exposing sinful thought and expression as worthy of judgement.

How then can Jesus fulfill the Law as he claimed in Matthew 5:17?

Question: Pastor Peppy illustrated what I call man's "forbidden fruit syndrome" with a DON'T TOUCH sign.

Have you ever touched wet paint or done something else when told not to? How did that work out for you?

What is it about "don't" that makes us want to "do?"

Question: What do you think of Pastor Peppy's exhortation from theologian, philosopher and pastor Francis Schaffer that most of an evangelist's message should be about sin and judgement?

Is there a place for old-time hellfire and brimstone preaching in today's world where the idea of eternal damnation is discounted?