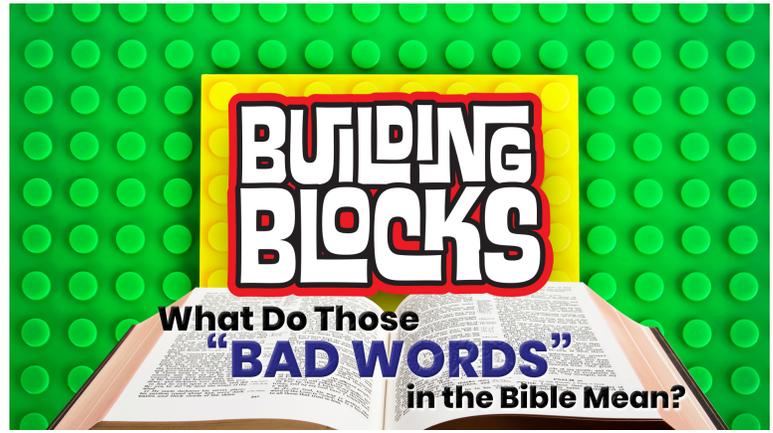


1 • SIN

“Sin is...” How would you finish that sentence? We hear that word a lot, don’t we? But what does it mean? Most importantly, what does God mean when he talks about “sin”?



SIN means to “_____” or “_____.”

The Hebrew word is used in [Judges 20:16](#) to describe warriors of the tribe of Benjamin who could “sling a stone at a hair and not miss.” It’s used in [Proverbs 19:2](#) to wisely warn us that “whoever makes haste with his feet misses his _____.”

But this situation gets serious when we realize that we can sin **against God**. That’s exactly what Joseph realized in [Genesis 39:9](#) when he asked Potiphar’s wife: “How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against _____?”

Scripture is also full of examples and warnings about the fact that we can sin against **other people**. For example, listen to King Saul as he confesses to David:

“I have _____. Return, my son David, for I will no more do you harm, because my life was precious in your eyes this day. Behold, I have acted foolishly, and have made a great mistake.”

Is all of this really that big of a deal? It is when we see the serious news in [Romans 3:22-23](#):

For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and _____ short of the glory of God...

We were created to glorify God and when we “fail” to do that, God describes our failure as “sin.” In [Genesis 4:5-7](#), he even goes so far as to warn Cain, “if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to _____, but you must rule over it.”

But I haven’t always “ruled over” sin, have I? Which is why I need a Savior, and that’s exactly how Jesus is described in [1 Peter 2:21-24](#):

He committed no sin... He himself bore _____ sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.



FOUNDATION STONES



▸ When we say, “I was created to glorify God,” what do we mean by that? Most importantly, what does GOD mean by that? What does it look like to “glorify God”?

▸ Let’s go back and read the story of Cain and Abel in [Genesis 4:1-8](#). How did Cain “fall short” of God’s glory? What do we need to see from God’s warning to Cain about sin in [Genesis 4:7](#)?



▸ How can we learn to say “No!” to respond to sin like Joseph did? [Psalm 119:9-12](#) would be a great Bible verse to read, memorize, and carry with you wherever you go!