



## WHAT WE BELIEVE-SIN

### Small Group Companion

Humankind, originally created in the image and likeness of God,<sup>[1]</sup> fell through disobedience, incurring thereby both physical and spiritual death. All people are born with a sinful nature, are separated from the life of God, and can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>[2]</sup> The destiny of the impenitent and unbelieving is existence forever in conscious torment, but that of the believer is everlasting joy and bliss.<sup>[3]</sup>

[1] Gen. 1:27

[2] Rom. 8:8; 1 John 2:2

[3] Matt. 25:41-46; 2 Thes. 1:7-10

- How do you define "sin"?
- Often there is an attitude among believers that those who engage in sinful behaviour get to 'enjoy' life more. How do you respond to that lie?
- Do you really believe that, before accepting Christ, you were totally unable to do anything that would be defined as spiritual good before God?
- Read Genesis 3. Can you name some parallels between the temptation faced by Eve and temptations that you face even now in your Christian life?
- Read Romans 8. When Paul writes, "For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." (8:2) what does he mean by "sin"?
- Those of you who have gone through the waters of baptism, what does your baptism mean? Not "what *did* it mean?" What *does* it mean right now?

My old nature is nailed to the cross of Christ! I am dead to sin and alive to Christ! I am no longer a slave to old habits, old patterns, old lies...



## Tillsonburg Alliance Church

- Do you think that Christians today have lost sight of the repugnance of sin to a large extent? Have unbelievers also lost sight of this?
- Do you think that we as Christians have lost sight of the thoroughgoing pervasiveness of sin in unbelievers, of the truth that the greatest problem of the human race, and of all societies and civilizations, is not lack of education or lack of communication or lack of material well-being, but sin against God?
- How do you finish this sentence: Christ Jesus died to set us free from... (Can you support your response from scripture?)

Daniel 9:4-19 is a remarkably powerful prayer of thanksgiving. Is there any relevance to our own context? How might we need to be using this prayer?

