



Ordinary Faithfulness

steady Christian living in the normal pressures of life

1 - Faithfulness Starts Small

2 - Hearing God Daily

3 – Praying Anyway

5- Staying Teachable

6 - Showing Up

7 - Resting Regularly

8 - Grace in Conflict

9 - Waiting With Hope

10 - Finishing Well

4 – Killing Sin Early

Sin grows when it is tolerated, so believers must deal with it early, honestly, and seriously

EMBARK

Most people do not plan to fall into serious sin. More often, sin grows quietly through small compromises, tolerated desires, and repeated excuses. We tend to think the real danger begins later, when the consequences are obvious, but Scripture teaches us to take sin seriously much earlier. The wise response is not to manage sin once it has grown, but to kill it while it is still small.



1. Why are people often slow to take sin seriously in its early stages?

EXAMINE

READ James 1:13–15

2. According to this passage, where does temptation lead if it is allowed to grow?
3. What does James show about the progression from desire to sin to death?
4. Why is it dangerous to treat sinful desire as harmless?

READ Hebrews 3:12–13

5. What warning does this passage give to believers?
6. How does sin deceive a person?
7. What role does daily exhortation play in resisting hardness of heart?

READ Psalm 139:23–24

8. What does David ask God to search and reveal?
9. Why is honest self-examination necessary in fighting sin?
10. What does it mean to ask God to lead us in the everlasting way?

EXPOSE

Sin is often tolerated early because the heart prefers comfort, secrecy, and delay.

- **We minimize what should alarm us**
We excuse “small” sins because the consequences are not yet obvious.
- **We do not treat temptation with urgency**
We assume we can manage what Scripture tells us to resist.
- **We keep sin hidden instead of bringing it into the light**
What stays concealed usually grows stronger.
- **We delay repentance until sin becomes costly**
We often wait until damage is visible instead of turning quickly when sin first appears.

Diagnostic questions:

- What sin pattern have I been excusing because it seems small?
- Where am I being dishonest about what is really going on in my heart?
- What temptation am I trying to manage instead of kill?
- Who knows me well enough to warn me when I am drifting?

ENGAGE

Discuss these matters with your table and summarize your findings to share with the group.

Step 1: Identify

What are some sins people commonly excuse in their early stages?

Step 2: Reflect

Why do people often wait too long to deal seriously with sin?

Step 3: Apply

What is one area where you need to respond more quickly and honestly to temptation?

Step 4: Encourage

How can believers help one another resist deception and hardness of heart before sin takes deeper root?

MEMORIZE

Hebrews 3:13 (CSB) “But encourage each other daily, while it is still called today, so that none of you is hardened by sin’s deception.”

THIS WEEK:

Choose one concrete step

- *confess one hidden struggle to a trusted believer*
- *identify one recurring temptation and cut off an early trigger*
- *pray Psalm 139:23–24 each day*
- *ask one mature Christian to check in with you honestly*

