



## Words Matter

### Introduction

Gossip, lying, impatience, and unthankfulness. These are sins that we dress up as habits and imperfections. But God knows that sin is a spiritual disease that, left unchecked, will spread throughout our lives and impact everyone we know. Yet the deep mercy of Jesus transforms our lives and overcomes our sin.

### Pray

Don't forget that if anything significant happens, it's because God moved. Start by asking God to bless this time.

### Practice Truth

1. How would you define a "Respectable Sin?" What are some examples? Why do you think it's important for us to understand what sin is and its impact on our lives and relationships?
2. Dirk shared that it seems like the word "sin" is disappearing from our vocabulary. Do you agree and disagree? What evidence do you find for either position?
3. If you haven't already, take a moment and read James 3:2-12. What images does James equate to the power of the tongue?
4. Why do you believe Jesus spent so much of his Sermon on the Mount addressing the roots of seemingly more serious sins? (e.g Lust instead of adultery and anger instead of murder)

### Do Life Together

Jerry Bridges, in his book *Respectable Sins*, gives a non-comprehensive list. Choose one from the following and ask God to search your heart and help you confront it: Discontentment, unthankfulness, lust, anger, pride, selfishness, lack of self-control, impatience, irritability, envy, judgmentalism, and worldliness