

DID JESUS REALLY SAY THAT?

The Extreme Demands of Discipleship

Mark 9:43-48

Christ's words expose the severity of sin:

1. Christ does not take sin lightly, nor should we.
2. Christ did not call us to moderate our sin, but to mortify our sin.
3. We are either killing sin, or sin is killing us.

Download *The Extreme Demands of Discipleship* (3rd in the *Did Jesus Really Say That?* series, 11/13/11) free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at hcbc.com/media. You may also purchase a CD at the Resource Center in the East Lobby.

My Application

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

1. Take time to read Jesus' words in Mark 7:20-23. What is the origin of our outward behavior?
2. Jesus gives extreme examples in Mark 9:43-48 on how we are to battle sin in our life. Though He is speaking in hyperbole, how can you apply these principles in your battle against sin?
3. We can easily be deceived when it comes to the sin in our life, thinking we are "better than most." How can this attitude damage your spiritual walk?
4. John Owen wrote in *Mortification of Sin*:

"...the choicest believers, who are assuredly freed from the condemning power of sin, ought yet to make it their business all their days to mortify the indwelling power of sin...Do you mortify; do you make it your daily work; be always at it whilst you live; cease not a day from this work; be killing sin or it will be killing you."

Owen is speaking to the constant battle that we face in regard to indwelling sin (Romans 7) and that we should make it our occupation to daily and continually fight for holiness. How are we to do so? Read Romans 8:1-7.