



new life fellowship

**Sermon Title: Good and Beautiful and Kind, Sin: The Fracturing of Reality**

**Speaker: Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor**

**Scripture: Romans 3:22-25**

For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup> since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup> they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement<sup>[a]</sup> by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed;  
(NRSVA)

### **Sermon Outline:**

The words Good and Beautiful and Kind don't always express what is taking place in our world.

Sin is not a popular word or subject but is something we must focus on because it is not mentioned in our public discourse. We need to talk about sin because if we don't know what the nature of the problem is, we can't come up with a solution to the problem.

The person who is crushed by the weight of the sin they are carrying.  
The person who is happy at the thought of sin when it is someone else's sin.  
The person who has no relationship to God as it relates to the righteousness of God.

**Sin is something that people do.  
Sin is a power people are under.**

The world is under the power of Sin. One of the ways to keep someone trapped in Sin is to simply address sins. But sins are the expression of something much deeper (Sin). Sin is a stronghold, a power that orients us inward. You can overcome your sins but still be under Sin.

Jesus came to free us from the Sin underneath our sins.

**All have sinned and fallen short of the Glory of God.**

We have a tendency of blaming everyone else for the problems and sins of the world. The manifestation of sin is shame and blame. We are all in the same boat no matter who we are or where we come from.

Sin is more than the absence of bad or doing bad things. You can live a life of not doing bad things and still be crushed under the power of Sin.

**Sin = Incurvatus in se (To be curved in on oneself)**

We all tend to be curved in on oneself because of sin. The entire story of the Bible is one story after another of people who have sinned and fallen short of the Glory of God.

**The reality of sin cannot be known or described except in relation to the One who has vanquished it.**

-Karl Barth

Whenever we talk about sin, we must immediately talk about something that happened in Jesus Christ that broke the power of sin. There was a power that was released which makes it possible for us not to be subjected to sin's dominion over our lives.

Rely on the Cross

## Confession of Sin

God's grace is greater than your sin.  
God's grace is greater than your neighbor's sin.

We are invited to rely on the Cross and confess our sins before God and one another where it can be held and forgiven.

Sin is our only hope because it finally positions us to receive only what comes through the person of Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ has defeated Sin and offers and invites us to a new life to help heal with world.

### **Sermon Summary:**

This Sunday, Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor, begins a new series entitled *Good and Beautiful and Kind*. Today Pastor Rich opens the series focusing on Sin, ways to better understand this word and the good news that opposes it in our lives.

### **Sermon Questions:**

1. Do you feel an invitation from Christ in today's scripture passage? Do any of the words resonate with you? If so, why?
2. We have all sinned and fallen short of the Glory of God. Are you feeling crushed by the weight of sin you are carrying, are you happy at the thought of someone else's sin or do you have no relationship with God as it relates to your sin? Find time to journal your answers to this question, asking for God's forgiveness in those areas where you have fallen short.
3. Consider the last week or two, where have you failed to love and instead have been turning in on yourself? Where do you need to confess your sin? Are you able to share your answers to these questions with your small group or a trusted brother or sister in Christ, asking for prayer in those areas where you might help so that you are able to love and not turn in on yourself?