

# Confronting “Acceptable Sins”

(Session 1)

from Jerry Bridges’ book “*Respectable Sins*”

*It does not matter how small the sins are, provided that their cumulative effect is to edge the man away from the light and out into nothing. Indeed, the safest road to hell is the gradual one—the gentle slope, soft under foot, without sudden turnings, without signposts. -- C. S. Lewis (1898-1963)*

## Key Passage

Philippians 4:6-7 (NASB95)

<sup>6</sup>Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

## Theme

There are NO acceptable sins to God and everything that we do should be to glorify Him.

### I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Sin

A. A Spreading \_\_\_\_\_

B. The Roots of Sin -- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

### II. The \_\_\_\_\_ Sins -- Section 1

A. The Respectable Sins of Anxiety, Worry, & Frustration

#### 1. Anxiety

a. Definition – \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Worry

a. Definition – \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### 3. Frustration

a. Definition – \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### 4. Why are \_\_\_\_\_ ?

a. \_\_\_\_\_ of God

b. Lack of \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives

### III. \_\_\_\_\_ to Anxiety, Worry, & Frustration

A. Steps to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Respectable Sins

1. Remember \_\_\_\_\_
2. Remember the \_\_\_\_\_
3. Remember your \_\_\_\_\_
4. Remember to \_\_\_\_\_
5. Remember to bring \_\_\_\_\_
6. Remember the \_\_\_\_\_
7. Remember your \_\_\_\_\_

### Application to our Lives

Are you \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ Respectable sins in your life?

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### Questions for Your Discussion Groups

- 1 What impact do you think the “softening” of language regarding sin is having on our lives? On our churches?
- 2 What hinders us from “recognizing” our sin? Why do we allow sin to “reign” (see Romans 6:12) in our lives?
- 3 Read Romans 1:18-32. Why do you think it is so easy for good people to be “ungodly” – to live most of the week as if God doesn’t exist; as if they are not responsible to Him and dependent on Him?
- 4 What practical things can we do each day to “train” ourselves “for godliness” (see 1 Timothy 4:7) so we please and glorify God during our ordinary activities?
- 5 What other sins often crop up if we tolerate anxiety, worry, and frustration in our lives?
- 6 What types of situations tempt you to become anxious, worried, or frustrated?
- 7 When has God used anxiety, worry, or frustration to teach you something; help you grow; or to get your attention?