

Why do Christians Sin?

After we are born again in Christ we are a new creation. Our sins are forgiven and we have God's Spirit to lead us in all righteousness. Clearly, we have the ability to do what is right (Romans 6:11-14) but we do sin (1 John 1:8).

God does not take away our human nature and our ability to choose good from evil (Romans 6:19). We still have free will and we still have Satan and his followers who prowl around looking for someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8). In our natural body we will always be tempted to put ourselves, our comfort and our own satisfaction above others. Plus we continue to live in a fallen and corrupted world which can give us cause us to stumble in our journey with Christ.

Even Jesus, in his humanity was tempted (Matthew 4:1-11). How was He tempted? He was tempted to turn rocks into bread when he was hungry and to receive his reward early (if he worshipped Satan). Jesus was perfect and in every temptation he had, he never sinned. He always chose God's way.

Jesus lives within the believer and helps us to resist temptation just like he did. We need to allow Jesus to take over and work through us (Philippians 4:13). Once we are saved we begin the process called sanctification. We grow in holiness and purity each day (Hebrews 12:14-15, 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8). As a new creation we do not enjoy sin nor do we habitually sin, but with our free will we do make wrong choices and sin.

When we do sin, we are to agree with God that we have done wrong. We do not live in sin. *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*^{NIV} 1 John 1:9

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