

# Sermon Series Resources for Blotch



Blotch is a teaching series to accompany the children's book BLOTCH. The book is an evangelistic tool for adults to use in leading children to an understanding of Jesus Christ. This series of sermons is to help the adults better understand our sinfulness, our failed attempts at fixing things and our need for Jesus. Each week in the series corresponds to one chapter in the book, and the passage taught is the same as the family Bible

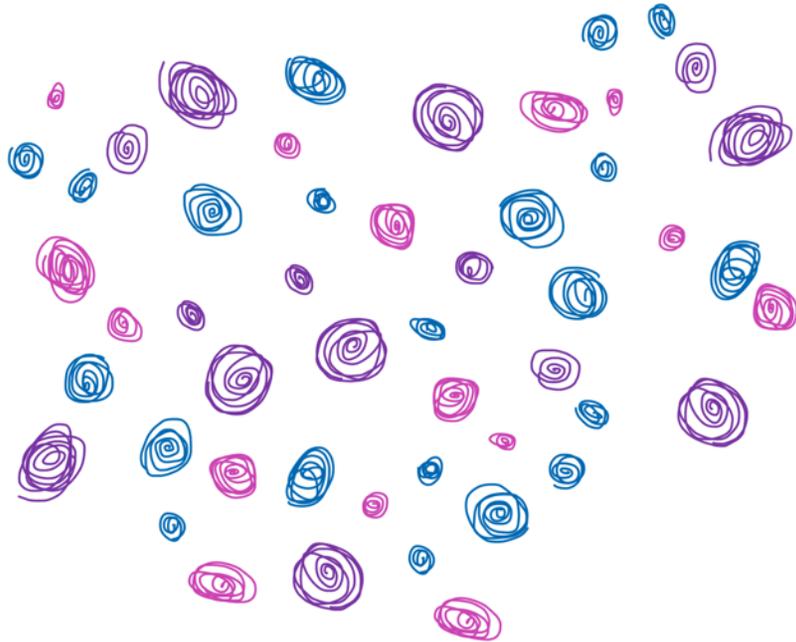
verse used for each chapter located as family Bible Studies at the end of BLOTCH. This is a children's book, but these lessons are for grown ups. The following pages include passages, outlines, study helps and illustration ideas. Also available are the video/audio versions of these messages as they were originally delivered by Pastor/ Author Andy Addis at CrossPoint Church.



Date	Chapter from Blotch	Sermon Topic	Teaching Passage
<b>Week 1</b>	The Journey Begins	The Real Problem - Sin	Romans 3:21-24
<b>Week 2</b>	The Hiders	Unmasked - Giving up on keeping up the "image"	Proverbs 28:13-14
<b>Week 3</b>	The Pretenders	Introducing the Great Pretender - Getting honest	1 John 1:8-9
<b>Week 4</b>	The Pointers	There's something in your eye - Stop playing the blame game	Matthew 7:2-5
<b>Week 5</b>	The King	Welcome to the Real Life - Jesus is the only answer	John 3:16-18

# Daily Readings

These are daily devotional passages that correspond to each week (or chapter in the Blotch book) in the series. The six passages on the list includes the passages used in both the sermon series and the small group material. It also includes four other passages which thematically tie to that particular week. These reading can be used as preparation (the week leading up to a weekend service), or as follow up (following the weekend service).



## Week 1

Day 1 - 1 John 1:5-10  
Day 2 - 1 John 3:4-10  
Day 3 - Mark 7:14-23  
Day 4 - Psalm 4  
Day 5 - Romans 12:1-2  
Day 6 - Romans 3:23-24

## Week 2

Day 1 - Genesis 4:1-12  
Day 2 - Jeremiah 23:23-24  
Day 3 - Luke 18:16-18  
Day 4 - 1 John 1:5-10  
Day 5 - Hebrews 4:14-16  
Day 6 - Proverbs 28:13

## Week 3

Day 1 - 1 John 1:8-9  
Day 2 - Matthew 10:26-33  
Day 3 - Matthew 5:13-16  
Day 4 - Matthew 25:14-30  
Day 5 - Hebrews 4:11-13  
Day 6 - Matthew 7:21-23

## Week 4

Day 1 - Galatians 6:1-6  
Day 2 - Philippians 3:12-16  
Day 3 - Proverbs 15:12-18  
Day 4 - Luke 14:12-24  
Day 5 - Matthew 12:33-37  
Day 6 - Matthew 7:2-5

## Week 5

Day 1 - Acts 4:5-12  
Day 2 - Philippians 2:1-10  
Day 3 - Matthew 26:26-29  
Day 4 - Matthew 27:27-31  
Day 5 - Matthew 28:1-10  
Day 6 - John 3:16-18

## WEEK 1

### The Real Problem - Romans 3:21-24

We suffer from mistaken identity. We think our problems are with people, programs and policies, but the truth is, the problem is us. The problem is sin.

*21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*

#### SERMON OUTLINE:

##### The Real Problem

- We know the problem: sin
- We know the answer: grace
- We know the way: Jesus

#### Talking Points & Illustrations:

People experience financial issues, relationship issues, emotional issues... what if everything actually boils down to sin issues?  
*ILLUSTRATION: Couples think they fight over a lot of issues, but it's usually just one.*

Notice God does not categorize... sin is sin. Your's is not so big it cannot be excused, nor so small it would be ignored. We're all on a level playing field in our brokenness.  
*ILLUSTRATION: It doesn't matter if its a big hair, or a little hair in your oatmeal... breakfast is over.*

Falling short of the glory of God isn't about getting close, it's about missing entirely and eternally. *ILLUSTRATION: Imagine if on your next flight, the pilot fell short of the runway on landing... that would get pretty serious, pretty quick.*

## STUDY HELPS:

No distinction - sin is the great equalizer erasing all lines between people everywhere. All look the same at the foot of the cross.

Fall short - from the Greek verb *hustereo* with root meanings to come late, be behind, come up short. It's a phrase that means you missed the bus.

The goal for all of humanity is not global fame, independent wealth, or political prestige. These things are far too small. The goal for every human is the Glory of God, and when we fall short of that, there must be a remedy.

Justification is a coin with two sides: on one side we are declared innocent of the wrongs we were actually guilty of, and on the other we are credited with the righteousness of God. So, it is literally adding and subtracting.

Redemption - The Greek word for "redemption" is *apolytrōsis*, "a ransom payment." We have been bought back from bondage.

Grace as a gift - we know that grace is a gift, but a phrase including both terms underscores with absolute clarity the unearned charity that grace is.

### **Romans 3**

*21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*

## WEEK 2

### Unmasked - Proverbs 28:13

What's behind curtain #1? Pardon me, but you have something in your teeth. You can run but you can't hide. Concealing our sin will never work. Real healing only happens when we come out from hiding.

*Proverbs 23:13 Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.  
14 Blessed is the one who fears the LORD always, but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity.*

#### SERMON OUTLINE:

##### Undoing the greatest cover up in history

- Hiding is not a long term solution
- Revealing opens the door to mercy
- Rightly responding to God is key

#### Talking Points & Illustrations:

In a culture where image is everything, it's easy to lose the principals of honesty and authenticity. ILLUSTRATION: what would the report look like if an investigative journalist took an interest in your life and started digging in to the details of who you were?

There is no denying that hiding has temporary advantages. Just as sin itself has temporary satisfaction. ILLUSTRATION: imagine a game of hide and seek that never ended. Everyone else went home for dinner, but you stayed hidden in the dark. That's not a game worth playing.

Social media has made many people exhibitionists. We're good at marketing ourselves, but God is more interested in the hidden details that you and I would never post online. ILLUSTRATION: what name might you give a social media site dedicated to honest confessions: Disgrace book, Twits, Unlinked, InstaBAM?

## STUDY HELPS:

Conceal - this concept was not new to Solomon as author of this proverb. He would have been familiar with his fathers work in both life and writing the Psalms. Referencing David's encounter with the prophet Nathan as well as Psalm 32 and 51 outline this family's history with concealing.

The promise that concealers of transgressions will not prosper seems to be contradicted by evidence in everyday life. However, the remainder of the verse shows what true prospering/success is: obtaining mercy. Don't be distracted by the apparent successes of the evil doers, but focus on what is truly valuable; the mercy of God.

Confess and forsake - this tandem word pairing points to an essential element of Christian discipline. Not only to confess in prayer, but to forsake. To literally leave, loose, or turn your back upon and go the other way.

Hardens his heart - this phrase means "To make it difficult." Combined with the use of heart, which in Hebrew thought was the inner self or essence of the person, this is a promise of calamity for one who makes it difficult for themselves with internal confusion. Concealing/Hiding has no good end in sight.

## ***Proverbs 28***

*13 Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.*

*14 Blessed is the one who fears the LORD always, but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity.*

## WEEK 3

### Introducing the Great Pretender - 1 John 1:8-10

You know your a good liar when you can lie to yourself. But, no amount of imagination, ignorance or spin changes the truth. It's time to quit pretending.

*1 John 1:8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.*

### SERMON OUTLINE:

#### Coming back to reality...

- Believe that there is a truth and it matters
- Trust God with the good, the bad and the ugly
- Live with the reality of our brokenness

### Talking Points & Illustrations:

Pretending is for actors, children and liars. When we pretend long enough we might actually start to believe the lie we are telling. ILLUSTRATION: It's ok to have imaginary friends as a child, but at some point it moves from endearing to creepy. We expect grown ups to be grounded in reality.

Moral relativism is a cultural disease which has confused, depressed and lead astray millions. There is truth and there are lies, the only way to survive is to be grounded in reality.

ILLUSTRATION: When we leave church today, lets all drive 10 miles an hour over the speed limit, and then try to convince the officers who pull us over that those numbers on the signs are really just subjective and open to interpretation.

Being honest about our past and real about our mistakes is a part of the Christian life. To deny that part of us is to call God a Liar. ILLUSTRATION: Offer a testimony of failure and God's grace. Show how reflected in our brokenness is a clear image of the grace of God.

## STUDY HELPS:

In this passage are two of four “conditionals” found in first John chapter 1. Also called universal maxims, we would recognize them as if/then statements.

Have no sin - this is most likely a response to a problem in the early church related to heretics of the Gnostic movement. They would claim to be without sin, because with any sin they believed there was no fellowship with a holy God, undermining the value of Christ sacrifice.

Deceiving ourselves - this is not as simple as it sounds. Like holding your hand behind your own back and trying to guess how many fingers you're holding up. It's more complex, in that believers cannot rationalize, explain away or excuse sinful behavior. Because to do so would deceive ourselves.

Deceive in Greek means "To cause to wander off the path."

Confess- is a Greek idiom that means "to pull out the heart."

In this passage it says that God is faithful, This means to His promise, to His character and into the sacrifice made in Jesus Christ.

The word cleanse, in the Greek, is the source of the English Word cathartic. This cleansing, and the state that follows, offer us the contemporary concept of something that feels cathartic.

### **1 John 1**

*8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.*

## WEEK 4

### There's something in your eye - Matthew 7:2-5

It's true nothing sticks to Teflon, but your not Teflon. Pointing the finger, excusing and rationalizing all just mean one thing. You've got something in your eye.

*Matthew 7:1 Judge not, that you be not judged. 2 For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. 3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.*

#### SERMON OUTLINE:

##### Clearing your vision...

- Treat others gently
- Deal with your own mess
- Earn the right to help others

#### Talking Points & Illustrations:

Jesus call for the believer is to clear any vision issues in their own life so that they have the ability to see clearly and help others. ILLUSTRATION: Think about those early mornings when its so hard to focus your eyes. Imagine trying to read some fine print on one of those mornings and you'll know why it's so important to see clearly!

This verse contains the heart of the Golden Rule: to treat others like you would like to be treated. ILLUSTRATION: Keep a journal this week. Quietly track how many times you show others grace or kindness, versus how many times you get frustrated or put out by others.

Pulling the log from your own eye is essential to earning the right to help others. We need to do the hard work dealing with our own mess. ILLUSTRATION: Reflect on restaurant bathroom wall signs that employees must wash hands before returning to work. Why? Because we need to be prepared to serve others.

## STUDY HELPS:

This passage is not a prohibition of judging. True, only God can pass judgement that leads to condemnation, but Christians are allowed (if not encouraged) to use discretion and judgement. Both of these concepts stem from meanings of the original greek for Judge: (krinō) can imply to analyze or evaluate as well as to condemn or avenge.

Verse 2 is about the principle of reciprocity. A good example is King David condemning himself without knowing he was the one being judged in 2 Samuel 12:1-7.

Judgementalism has two expressions in this passage. Verse 3 is an internal critical spirit, while verse 4 is an external expression of being judgmental.

The use of 'brother' in this passage indicates that this passage is primarily about relationships and attitudes between believers.

Hypocrite is a well understood word in our culture, but its origins clarify its meaning. It was originally used of theater actors and indicated one who wore a mask and pretended.

First and then - this is the true meaning of the passage and the reason Jesus words are so often misinterpreted. "First" take care of your own issues, so that "then" you can get in other people's business to help them.

## **Matthew 7**

*1 Judge not, that you be not judged. 2 For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. 3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.*

## WEEK 5

### Welcome to the Real Life - John 3:16-18

We live in a culture of options, but when it comes to the sinful marks upon your life there is only one solution. Jesus is our only hope!

*John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.*

#### SERMON OUTLINE:

##### Finding the real answer...

- Recognize God initiated
- Respond with release
- Realize your situation

#### Talking Points & Illustrations:

Salvation, faith and relationship are all the product of what God alone initiated.

Our role is entirely responsive.

ILLUSTRATION: The question on the mind of parents everywhere is "Who started it?" It's important because we need to know the cause agent if we are to take an intelligent next step.

Faith is inherently passive. It's given by God to us. And it's nature is to cause a reliance upon God by resting in Him. ILLUSTRATION: You don't have faith in a chair until you sit on it.

You can study it, understand it, believe in it and even promote it, but it is not real faith until you put your weight in it.

The purpose of Jesus coming to save us from a condemnation we were 'already under. ILLUSTRATION: There are many people on the road today who have no idea they have a warrant out for their arrest. A forgotten parking ticket, a moving violation fine that hasn't been paid. They are blissfully unaware that someday, they will be held accountable, and on that day they can't pay their own bail.

## STUDY HELPS:

While John 3:16 is probably the most well known stand alone verse in all of Scripture, it is best understood in the context of at least three verses stretching through verse 18.

The syntax of the original language is well-expressed in the New Living Translation as it says, “For this is how God loved the world.”

Only Son - this phrase stems from the Greek monogenes which emphasizes the uniqueness, or ‘only-ness’ of God’s son, and is not an emphasis of “Son.” It’s not possible to see Jesus as a created being, or being born into existence through this verse.

For God so loved the world - This passage is in the context of speaking to the Jewish teacher Nicodemus. A statement that God loved the whole world (cosmos) would have been difficult to understand and accept for one who was a proponent of seeing Hebrews as God’s (only) chosen people.

In this passage God’s efforts far outweighs humanity as He bears the burden of giving and loving, while humanity need only believe.

Already - this is key to understanding Jesus mission. He did not come to condemn, because we were condemned ‘already,’ so, His mission was totally to save.

## **John 3**

*16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.*