

trouble. One of the propeller fins had a 3/4-inch (2 cm) nick in it. *That can't be it, I thought. That nick is too small.* But when we installed a new propeller, what a difference it made! We had been slowed down by a tiny nick.

A similar problem is often at work in our lives as Christians. Sinful practices like those described in Galatians 5:16-21 have their roots in the seemingly insignificant thoughts and attitudes of the heart (Matthew 5:28; 15:18-19). If we ignore or tolerate these "little" sins, they will eventually grow, corrupting more of our thoughts and actions—even harming people around us. Just as a little yeast leavens a whole lump of dough (Galatians 5:9), so also a "little" sin can eventually weaken our service for Christ and the ministry of His church.

Remember, little nicks can cause big trouble. —Dave Egner

*One little sin, what harm can it do?
Give it free reign and soon there are two.
Then sinful deeds and habits ensue—*

Guard well your thoughts, lest they destroy you. —D. De Haan

Little sins won't stay little.



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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Little Nicks—Big Trouble!

A little leaven leavens the whole lump. —Galatians 5:9

We couldn't figure it out. My son and I had purchased an old powerboat for fishing and couldn't make it run properly. We were unable to get it up to speed, and it shuddered when we tried to go faster. We figured that the trouble was with the fuel system, so we adjusted the carburettor and changed the fuel filter. But that still didn't solve the problem.

When we took the boat out of the water, my son found the cause of the





Living Delight Getting to the Heart

Ephesians 6:12, 5:8, 2:2, 5:5

(Colossians 1:13) "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,"

(1 Corinthians 3:1-3) "And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. {2} I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; {3} for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?"



According to Ephesians there are two ways for a Christian to walk:

1. Do not walk _____, in the _____, as _____, Ephesians 4:17-19, 2:1, 5:3-17

(Romans 1:20-23) "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

{21} because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **{22}** Professing to be wise, they became fools,

{23} and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man; and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things."

(Deuteronomy 11:16) ""Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them,"

(Galatians 6:14) "But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."



(Titus 2:11-12) "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, **{12}** teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,"

(James 4:4) "Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a



friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."

(1 John 2:15-16) "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

{16} For all that is in the world; the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life; is not of the Father but is of the world."

2. Walk _____, in _____, in _____,
Ephesians 4:17, 20, 23-24,
5:1-2, 8-10, 15-17,

