

Sins of Commission and Omission

Understanding the difference between sins of **commission** and **omission** helps us see sin not just as doing the wrong thing, but also as *not doing the right thing*. Here's a breakdown with examples for both:

Sins of Commission

Doing what **God forbids** — actively committing sinful acts.

Examples:

- **Lying** – Breaking truthfulness (Exodus 20:16).
- **Stealing** – Taking what isn't yours (Exodus 20:15).
- **Adultery** – Violating God's design for marriage (Hebrews 13:4).
- **Murder or hatred** – Jesus equates hate with murder in the heart (Matthew 5:21–22).
- **Drunkenness/Gluttony** – Losing self-control (Ephesians 5:18, Proverbs 23:20–21).
- **Blasphemy** – Speaking irreverently about God (Mark 3:28–29).
- **Gossip/Slander** – Maliciously damaging someone's reputation (Proverbs 16:28, Colossians 3:8).
- **Pride** – Elevating oneself over God or others (Proverbs 16:18).

Sins of Omission

Failing to do what **God commands** — neglecting good we know we should do.

Examples:

- **Neglecting prayer or Bible reading** – Ignoring relationship with God (Luke 5:16, Psalm 1).
- **Not helping someone in need** – Choosing indifference (James 2:15–16).
- **Withholding forgiveness** – Refusing to extend grace (Matthew 6:14–15).
- **Not sharing the gospel** – Staying silent about Christ (Ezekiel 3:18, Romans 10:14).
- **Failing to love others** – Not showing Christlike compassion (James 4:17).

- **Avoiding community** – Isolating from the Church (Hebrews 10:25).
 - **Not using our gifts (including generosity through giving)** – Burying talents God gave us (Matthew 25:24–30, 2 Corinthians 9:7).
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James 4:17

“Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.”