

# NO EXCUSES

## SCRIPTURE:

*No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. (1 John 3: 9).*

## MATERIALS LIST:

- (1) mower
- (1) gas can
- (1) yard of tall grass

## MAIN MESSAGE:

Once we recognize sin in our lives we need to start working on getting it out as soon as possible. There is no excuse for letting sin hang around.

**SONG:** "Have Thine Own Way"

## LESSON:

Most of the time I really do not mind mowing my yard. Most of the time! It's one of those things that people either love or hate. For me it is love and hate, depending on the season, how much time I have, and how willing I am at the time it needs to be mowed. It is one of those things that I know I have to do, but sometimes I just put it off and put it off.

For example, the last few weeks for me have been extremely busy. I pull into the drive way each day and realize I need to mow; however, I just keep putting it off. One day it may be because I'm too tired. Another day it may be because I have something else to do. Every day, for a couple of weeks, I just kept putting it off. Procrastination mixed with unseasonal precipitation didn't make it any easier on me!

Eventually, I got out the old push mower and filled it with gas. I started mowing and had to raise the blade up because the grass was just too tall and too thick to cut. A job that normally took me about 45 minutes to do when the grass was normal height, took me over 2.5 hours to complete. On top of that, I had to rake up all that excess grass in the yard that usually isn't there. It was all my fault though because I knew what needed to be done, and I just kept making excuses and putting it off. I knew the grass would get taller and would be harder to cut down; however, I just let it get that way because it was easy.

When we see something in our life that needs to be changed and we make excuses, we are just making it harder on ourselves and we are putting a damper on our Christian walk. It is never easy to just get rid of sin. Sin is the easy way, the lazy way, but it is also the broad pathway which leads to destruction. We know what will come of it if we let it hang around. The longer we let it grow, the harder and harder it will be to cut off, much like the grass that we let grow too long. We need to stop making excuses for ourselves and start making changes for God.

**PRAYER:** Give us the strength to overcome the excuses that we want to make when it comes to our sin.