

# MORTAL SIN 101

For a sin to be considered *mortal*, ALL 3 of the following conditions must exist:

1. The act must involve *grave matter*
2. The act must be committed with *full knowledge*
3. The act must be committed with *deliberate consent*

In other words, the action must be <sup>1</sup>**REALLY BAD**, you need to <sup>2</sup>**KNOW** how really bad it is, and you need to <sup>3</sup>**PURPOSELY CHOOSE** to do it.

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read each example below. Then, using the 3 conditions listed above, decide whether a mortal sin has been committed or not.

## EXAMPLE SITUATIONS

### Example #1

Mr. Rutabaga killed a man yesterday. He knew that it was wrong but he did it anyway.

### Example #2

Mr. Rutabaga received a strange note in the mail one day. It read, “*Tomorrow morning at work you must throw burning acid on your boss’ face. Note: If you show or tell anyone about this note, I will kidnap your children when you least expect it.*” Mr. Rutabaga knew throwing acid on his boss would be wrong, but the pressure to keep his children safe led him to acid bomb his boss while at work the next day.

### Example #3

Mr. Rutabaga found an unopened bag of delicious Skittles on the ground yesterday. Mr. Rutabaga knew that these Skittles probably belonged to someone else, but since he didn’t see anyone around he decided to keep the bag and eat all the Skittles himself.

### Example #4

Mr. Rutabaga stayed up really late one Saturday night eating popcorn and watching movies with some friends. When Sunday morning rolled around Mr. Rutabaga felt pretty tired and lazy and decided to skip Mass for the day. “After all”, he thought, “It’s not that big of a deal.”