

Memory Verse:

Jeremiah 2:13

¹³ for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.



Proclaim

- **Every morning:**
 - Pray for an open door to share the gospel with someone
 - Pray for boldness
- Carry a *Gospel of John* in your pocket

Homework

1. Listen to Tim Keller's sermon "Gospel Realisation" located at:
http://www.monergism.com/directory/link_category/Gospel/Tim-Keller/
2. Read "Talking About Idolatry In A Postmodern Age" by Tim Keller
3. Answer the following questions:

Sin: Idols of the Heart

Genesis 3:1-5

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."



Ponder verse 1 for a few minutes. What was the serpent's scheme to get woman to sin?



Look at verse 3 carefully. In light of Genesis 2:16, did God really say, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die?" Why would Eve misrepresent what God said?



In verse 4 the serpent blatantly lies. This reveals a characteristic of Satan. Look up John 8:44 and list everything you learn about Satan.



Think about Genesis 2:17 in relation to Satan telling Eve that she could be “like God” in 1:5. Why is it important for Adam and Eve to not eat from the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil?”



Application- Doubting God's Goodness

In Genesis 1 there is the repeated phrase: “It was good.” All of God’s creation was for the benefit of Adam and Eve so that they would perfectly reflect His beauty, power, majesty and intelligence. But in Genesis 3:1-5 the serpent casts doubt on God’s goodness. He makes Eve believe that God is withholding something good and desirable from her. Notice that Eve’s sin was not first an action of reaching out and taking the forbidden fruit, it was an attitude of the heart.

All sin is a result of doubting the goodness, provision and grace of God. Is there any area of your life where you have been doubting God’s goodness? Will you confess it and ask Christ to show you His goodness revealed on Calvary? Romans 5:8 says, “but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Only a revelation of Christ’s love on the cross can break the idols of our hearts.

Genesis 3:6-7

⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.



List the sequence of events that took place in v.6:



Read James 1:15-17. What are the similarities between this passage and Genesis 3?



3:6 says that “the tree was to be desired to make one wise.” Why was it wrong for Adam and Eve to eat from the tree and gain wisdom?



Why did they sow fig leaves together in v.7? Read Hebrews 12:2 to understand what Jesus did in light of v.7.



According to verse 6, where was Adam when Eve ate the fruit?

Genesis 3:8-13

⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."



Why did Adam and Eve hide?



In verse 9 and 11, why did God call out to the man and ask him if he had eaten the fruit?



How does Adam respond to God's questioning?



How does Eve respond to God's questioning in verse 13?

Genesis 3:14-19

¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

¹⁶ To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you." ¹⁷ And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."



What does it mean that there will be "enmity" between Satan and the woman's offspring?



In verse 15 it says, "he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." Who is the "he" in this verse?



List all of the curses in this passage. How do they relate to us?

Genesis 3:20-24

²⁰ The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹ And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. ²² Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever--" ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.



Read Hebrews 9:22. What is significant about God clothing Adam and Eve with "garments of skins."



Read Revelation 21-22. What are the similarities between Revelation 21-22 and Genesis 1-3?

Genesis 4:1-12

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." ² And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. ³ In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴ and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, ⁵ but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. ⁶ The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it." ⁸ Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" ¹⁰ And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. ¹¹ And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth."



What does Genesis 4:1-12 tell us about the condition of humankind?