



Sermon-Based Discussion Guide for Home Groups

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Gospel: The Fall
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SCRIPTURE

Genesis 3:1-16

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

2 The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, **3** but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

4 “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. **5** “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. **7** Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. **9** But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”

10 He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

11 And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

12 The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

16 To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

ENGAGE

Other than the gospel, what is the best news you’ve ever been told?

Compared to the gospel, how good was that good news?

DISCUSS

1. What is the gospel... If someone were to come up to you and ask you to define it, what would you say?
2. Read the passage above. How would you summarize this passage in one sentence? (Explain the phrases “eating dust” that signifies a defeated enemy and that a “bite on the heel” is not a mortal wound.)
3. How is this passage a picture of the gospel?
4. Read 1 Cor. 15:3-4. How close does this come to your understanding of the Gospel? Are there any other passages that present a good picture of the gospel? (John 3:16, John 1:12, others)
5. The power of the gospel can mend families that are broken, bring reconciliation among people, lead them to adopt orphans, build hospitals, care for the needy, and deliver people from temptation and addiction.

How does the gospel accomplish all of these things and more?

Read Romans 1:16 and discuss.

6. Most followers of Jesus never experience the full impact of the gospel in their lives. Why do you think that is?
7. How does it make you feel to realize that while we were in our sin, God came to us? This is called grace. Recount the story of Hosea and Gomer.
8. Our salvation came at a great cost to God. This also should cause us to rejoice that God reached down to us. It should also lead us to love our Heavenly Father. What can we do in response to God’s sacrifice?

YOUR NEXT STEP

Here are a few possible next steps for you. Please choose one for the coming week:

1. Stop running and surrender if you have never surrendered to God before.
2. Memorize Romans 1:16.
3. Ask yourself, “What is going on in my life right now that could be impacted by the gospel?”
4. Ask yourself, “What one thing can I do right now to draw on the power of the gospel?”

CHILDREN'S TIME

1. What is the best news you've ever heard? (Allow for answers. Then tell how the word "gospel" means good news and it was used to describe the good news of what God did for us through Jesus.
2. Ask children to identify the most powerful thing they've ever seen. (Tell them about how the gospel can be powerful to save people and to change lives.)
3. If we've got the best news and the greatest power all rolled up into one thing, the Gospel, then how can we share that with other people?

OTHER PASSAGES

Isaiah 64:25

Romans 16:20

Hosea 1:2

Colossians 2:15

Hebrews 2:14