

Small Group Questions

Questions in the Garden ||| Genesis 3

Genesis 3 documents what we have come to know as “the fall of mankind.” The story is rather lengthy and spans a variety of discourse through multiple characters involved. Although there are several characters in the narrative, it is clear that God is the central focus of the story. It is best to read Genesis 3 through the eyes of an Israelite looking to enter the Promised Land. The narrators goal is probably more than to simply teach Israel about the origin of brokenness. The goal is to teach people about the hope comes from God after we fall into sinful decisions. Looking with New Testament eyes, we see how Adam is a type of Jesus. Both were tempted but Jesus conquered sin.

Neal shared a story about his daughters painting the side of their rental house. Share a story about a time you got caught doing something you knew you shouldn't have been doing.

To fully understand the fall in Genesis 3, you have to read the blessings of God that come in Genesis 2. Read Genesis 2 and discuss the beauty of creation. What stands out to you about the creative ability of God in Genesis 2?

Read Genesis 3:1-5. The serpent plants a seed of doubt in the mind of Eve. Satan ignores the good gifts of God. Read John 8:44, John 10:10, and 1 Corinthians 15:33. What do we learn about the enemy and who we keep company with?

Adam and Eve were tempted by the serpent and willfully disobeyed the commands of God. Neal shared that the immediate results of sin are: feeling guilty for our actions & being afraid of God. How can we resist temptation? (read James 1:13-15)

Read Genesis 3:14-20. God makes is clear that Satan will be defeated. Read Isaiah 11:1, 4-9, Matthew 4:1-11, 1 Corinthians 15:20-34. What does Scripture teach us about Jesus defeating sin so we can be in relationship with God?

The relationship between Adam and Eve will never be the same. In the same way, our marriage relationships with always need work. Read Ephesians 5:21-33. Talk about how to have a thriving marriage while living in a broken world.

Although Adam and Eve will be sent out of the garden, God still showed His grace after judgement (read Genesis 3:21-24). How do we live in the grace that God has so generously extended to us? (see John 8:1-11, Romans 3:24, Ephesians 2:8-10)

Close your time in prayer. Talk about who you will invite to Coastline on Sunday.