

The events in Genesis 3 disrupt the calm of Eden and are central to the story of what happens to mankind. The book of Genesis was most likely written by Moses to God's people (the Israelites). They were preparing to enter the Promised Land and would have felt the pain of their own disobedience to God. In Genesis 3, we read what many people refer to as "The fall of mankind" and you will see why. Our passage has four voices: God, the devil, Adam, and Eve. Adam and Eve are in the garden when the serpent approaches them to plant a seed of doubt in their mind. The devil plays a role of deception against Eve that leads her and Adam to sin.

- 1. In the early Twentieth Century, Harry Houdini sought to expose the deceptive behavior of mediums and fortune tellers. Share about a time when you were deceived by someone. How did it feel and what did you learn?
- 2. **Read Genesis 3:1-5.** The serpent wants to twist the truth of God. The serpent wants to plant a seed of doubt in Eve's mind. Share about a time when you twisted the word of God to make it say what you want it to say.
- 3. One of the ideas is that Eve didn't fully trust God and that is why the serpent was able to deceive here. **Read Proverbs 3:5-6, 2 Kings 18:5, Psalm 20:7, Daniel 6:23.** What is holding you back from trusting God fully?
- 4. **Read Genesis 3:6-10**. The pace of this story happens quickly: she saw, she took, she ate, she gave, and he ate. Think about how the story of sin in your life moves. Can you identify any patterns in your life that might lead to sin?
- 5. Neal shared three consequences of our sin: We lose our innocence, we feel guilty or embarrassed for our actions, and we hide from God. When you look at the entirety of Scripture, what are some other consequences of sin?
- 6. **Read Genesis 3:14-19.** Adam & Eve confessed their sin but there are repercussions for our actions. Discuss the different curses that God gave here. How do you see this play out in society today?
- 7. **Read Genesis 3:21**. Even in their darkest moment, God's grace shines the brightest. God covered the nakedness of Adam and Eve. **Read Mark 15:33-41**. Talk about how Jesus went to the cross to pay for our sins.
- 8. Close your time in prayer. Pray for strength to invite a friend to meet Jesus.