

SERMON: Paradise Lost

October 14, 2018

SERIES: Genesis the Beginning of the Gospel

SPEAKER: Pastor Mark

CONNECT (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

REVIEW (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 3:1-25 *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." 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.*

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool[c] 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."

*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 contrary to [f] your husband,
but 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.”*

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.

SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. The Nature of Temptation and Sin
- II. The Devastating Consequence of Sin
- III. The Only Cure for Sin

GROW (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group. Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. As you read this week’s passage, what do you observe about God’s judgment and man’s sin? What lie does Eve believe about God? In what ways have you seen this same lie creep into your own thinking?
2. What effects of sin do we see in Genesis 3? Think about the “before and after” of Adam and Eve (review Genesis 2 if needed). Can you identify these same effects in your own life? Specifically, can you see the effect of shame in your life? Of hiding your shame?
3. One of the biggest effects of the Knowledge of Good and Evil is that now, as people, we try to decide what is right and wrong for ourselves (self-justification).
-Read Matthew 4:1-11. How do we see Satan using the knowledge of good and evil against Jesus (getting him to decide right and wrong for himself)? How does Jesus respond?
-Read Romans 1:18-25; 28-32. How does Paul describe us using our knowledge of good and evil here? What is the result?
4. Think about the sin of Adam and Eve and what we have learned about gender. Male = to remember and move to make a mark. Female = to be open and receive; to be an intimate ally (“helper fit for him” 2:18). In what way does Adam fail to be masculine? In what way does Eve fail to be feminine? How does the curse (3:16-19) effect Adam and Eve in their gender? What can we learn from all of this as men and women?
5. How does God demonstrate his love and mercy in Genesis 3? Specifically, how does the promise of Genesis 3:15 prove God’s love and mercy? How is Jesus Christ the fulfillment of this promise? How does Christ cover our shame (Read Hebrew 12:1-2; Philippians 3:3; 2 Corinthians 3:4-5; Psalm 25:2)?

Pray: Praise God for his constant movement toward us rather than away from us, confess areas of self-justification and doubting of God’s word, ask God to cover your shame with the work of Christ in your life.

