

Genesis 3:1-7 English Standard Version (ESV)

1 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.

Discussion/Journal Questions

Read Genesis 3:1-7. Is there anything in this story that you have never noticed before? What questions do you have about this story?

What is the difference between a mistake and an act of rebellion? Why is it important to see our sin as an act of rebellion versus a mistake we made?

In Genesis 3:1-7, what was the core of the serpent’s deception? What lie was he trying to convince the man and woman about?

How is this deception still at work in our world today? How is this deception at work in your life?

Read Romans 7:14-25. Does Paul’s struggle resonate with your experience? How?

In the sermon on Sunday, John said that we need to lament our sin. In Celebrate Recovery, the first of the 12 Steps is “We admitted we were powerless over our addictions and compulsive behaviors, that our lives had become unmanageable.” What areas of sinfulness and rebellion have you lamented? In what areas of life are you hearing the Holy Spirit’s conviction and feeling your need to lament?

In addition to lamenting, John also calls us to repent and turn to Jesus. In Celebrate Recovery, the 2nd and 3rd steps are “We came to believe that a power greater than ourselves (Jesus) could restore us to sanity” and “We made a decision to turn our wills and our lives over to the care of God.” What areas of life do you still need to surrender over to King Jesus?

How can your group help you in this process?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?