
NOTES

Scripture: Genesis 2:15-17 and Genesis 3

REVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

1. Looking back over your notes, what did you find most helpful, challenging, or interesting in this week's teaching? Was there anything you've never heard before or something that made you think differently?

MY STORY

1. Chris said, "the story you are living determines how you live ."Do you believe that? Has your opinion on that changed since we started this teaching series? If you do believe it, what are you doing about it?
2. Where do you find your significance in life?
3. Chris talked about the consequences (personal and societal) when people don't have eternal significance, and everything is an accident. Where have you seen this play out (either from a personal perspective or a societal one)?
4. Can you think of a time when you tried to work outside the design and suffered consequences? What happened?

In The Beginning
Week 3
That Explains A Lot

Chris Figaretti
May 8, 2022

5. What personal impacts have you seen when you have chosen to live into the story God has for you?
6. Why is choice important in a true relationship? Why do you think God allows us to choose whether we will trust and follow Him or not?
7. When Satan tempts you, how does he twist God's word and try to call God's goodness into question? How do you respond?
8. How do you counter the enemy's lie that God is trying to restrict you?
9. Why do you think the enemy is trying to make you think God is lying to you?
10. What does it mean to live life on your terms and not on God's? What has happened when you've done this? What have been the consequences?
11. What's the difference between physical and spiritual death? How does giving into the lies of the enemy lead to spiritual death?
12. What's the relationship between shame and blame?
13. What are some consequences of sin you have experienced or seen in the lives of others? What societal consequences of sin do you see happening around you?
14. What was God's plan to fix the mess? Talk about this plan in your Life Group.

DIGGING DEEPER

Read through these guiding scriptures and answer the corresponding questions.

Read Genesis 3:16, Ephesians 5:21-33, Galatians 5:13-26

1. How do the consequences of sin impact relationships?
2. How have you seen this play out in your life and the lives of people around you?

3. How do we push back against these consequences of sin? Give specific examples based on the New Testament passages?
4. For those who are married, if we choose to live by the instructions Paul gives in Ephesians 5, how would that reduce the consequences of sin in your marriage?
5. Are there any other Bible passages that God has given you to push back against the power and the consequences of sin?

Read Genesis 3, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

1. How is this section in Romans connected to Genesis 3? What is the scripture saying about Adam's death and Jesus' work on the cross?
2. How are Satan's lies in the wilderness similar to his lies in the garden? How were Jesus' circumstances different? Do you think it's important that Jesus knew the word of His Father for how He responded to Satan's lies compared to how Adam and Eve responded?
3. When reading about how Adam and Eve blame others for their sin, it can be interpreted that they also blamed God. Have you ever been tempted to blame God? If so, how?

BRINGING IT HOME

1. Chris Dew left us with a couple of questions after Week 1 of this series: "Why is everything so broken" and "What went wrong"? After today's message, what do you think answers those two questions?
2. Chris gave us six truths in his message: 1) God gave us the ability to choose obedience or disobedience, 2) Temptation comes in the strangest forms, but the lies are always the same, 3) Shame is the consequence of disobedience, 4) Blame is how we deal with shame, 5) The consequences of sin are real, and 6) God has a plan to fix this mess. Looking at the first one, what is obedience; what is disobedience? Can you give specific examples? How are you choosing to be obedient? Where are you choosing to disobey? Think of specific examples.
3. What temptations are you facing in life? How are you dealing with those? Are you resisting those well or not so well? Do you even want to resist them?
4. Chris gave us four types of lies that the enemy uses to convince us to trade God's best for us for whatever is tempting us: 1) God is holding out on you. You are so restricted; 2) God is a liar; 3) Life is much better on your terms than God's, and 4) You surely won't die. Which of these lies are you most

That Explains A Lot

susceptible to? How does the enemy use that lie to tempt you? How is he using any of the other lies to tempt you? What can you do to break the enemy's ability to influence you with these lies? Will you choose to do that? What help do you need? Discuss this with your Life Group.

5. What is shame? How is that different from conviction? Do you struggle with shame? What influence does shame have on you?
6. Do you tend to blame others for what happens in your life? Who do you tend to blame? How has that impacted your relationships?
7. What can/will you do to break free from the shame and blame game?
8. How have you seen the consequences of sin play out in your life? In the lives of people you love? Do you think those consequences of sin are "fair," or do you feel like you've/they've gotten a raw deal?
9. Is it possible to be loved and forgiven but still need to suffer from the consequences of sin? Can you think of an example?
10. Chris said every time we choose to sin, we add insult to injury. How have you seen the cumulative effect of sin and its consequences play out in your life? What can you do about this? How can you be free from the "piling on"?
11. Chris talked about how God's plan to fix the mess has a couple of realizations. Jesus has paid the price for our sin, and the separation with God has been bridged for those who follow Jesus. When Jesus comes back, the power of sin will be broken permanently - there will be no more struggle with sin. Think about each of those realizations. How are you living out the first? How does Jesus' sacrifice and the relationship that offers us with God affect how you live your life?
12. If you are a follower of Jesus, how is the blessed hope He offers in the second realization helping you to thrive in a world still filled with sin, death, and sin's consequences?
13. If you're not yet a follower of Jesus, what do you think about all of this? What are you going to do with it?

Your Next Steps are: 1) Consider Chris's message. Watch or listen to it again (via the Vineyard website, app, or podcast). How are you dealing with the temptations and lies of the enemy? How are you dealing with the consequences of sin in your life? What are living for? What is your ultimate hope in life? What will you do with this message?