



Manna Curriculum

YEAR-ONE · WEEK-05

God's Holiness and Human Sin

Complete Week Guide

Includes: Overview, Adults, Youth, Kids, Kids Sermon Activity, Family Worship, Spouses, Singles, Sermon Outline

Primary Text: Genesis 3

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:6

Manna Curriculum — 100% free church curriculum

God's Holiness and Human Sin

Big Idea: Because humanity rebelled against God, sin entered the world and broke our relationship with Him.

Primary Text: Genesis 3

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:6

Week 5 Overview

God's Holiness and Human Sin

Scripture Reading

Read the primary text for this week.

Genesis 3

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3

The Serpent's Deception

- 1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”
- 2 The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden,
- 3 but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.’”
- 4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent told her.
- 5 “For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”
- 6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.
- 7 And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves.

God Arraigns Adam and Eve

8 Then the man and his wife heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the breeze of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

9 But the LORD God called out to the man, “Where are you?”

10 “I heard Your voice in the garden,” he replied, “and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.”

11 “Who told you that you were naked?” asked the LORD God. “Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

12 And the man answered, “The woman whom You gave me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” “The serpent deceived me,” she replied, “and I ate.”

The Fate of the Serpent

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and every beast of the field! On your belly will you go, and dust you will eat, all the days of your life.

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

The Punishment of Mankind

16 To the woman He said: “I will sharply increase your pain in childbirth; in pain you will bring forth children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

17 And to Adam He said: “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat, cursed is the ground because of you; through toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.

18 Both thorns and thistles it will yield for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your bread, until you return to the ground—because out of it were you taken. For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”

20 And Adam named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all the living.

The Expulsion from Paradise

21 And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and He clothed them.

22 Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil. And now, lest he reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and

live forever..."

23 Therefore the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

24 So He drove out the man and stationed cherubim on the east side of the Garden of Eden, along with a whirling sword of flame to guard the way to the tree of life.

Weekly Focus

Week 5 brings us to one of the most important chapters in all of Scripture. After encountering God as **holy and near** in Isaiah 6, we now see what happens when humanity chooses independence over trust.

Genesis 3 explains why the world is broken, why relationships are fractured, and why shame, fear, and death are part of human experience. Sin is not merely bad behavior—it is rebellion against God's authority and goodness.

This week helps participants understand sin clearly so that God's mercy can be understood rightly in Week 6.

Big Truth

Because humanity rebelled against God, sin entered the world and broke our relationship with Him.

Sin disrupts:

- Our relationship with God
- Our relationships with one another
- Our relationship with creation
- Our understanding of ourselves

Primary Text Summary

The Temptation

The serpent questions God's word and goodness, inviting humanity to decide for themselves what is right and wrong. Trust is replaced with doubt.

The Fall

Adam and Eve choose disobedience. Sin enters the world, bringing guilt, shame, and fear. What was once open fellowship with God becomes hiding and separation.

The Consequences

God confronts sin honestly. There are real consequences—pain, brokenness, and death—but God does not abandon humanity. Even in judgment, God remains present.

Sermon Emphasis

The sermon will focus on:

- The nature of temptation and deception
- The choice to trust self over God
- The immediate and lasting effects of sin
- God's holiness expressed through justice

This sermon prepares the way for Week 6 by making clear **why mercy is needed**.

Group & Discipleship Flow

- **Kids** will learn that disobedience separates us from God.
- **Youth** will wrestle with temptation, responsibility, and consequences.
- **Adults** will examine sin honestly without minimizing it.
- **Families, Singles, and Spouses** will practice confession and trust in God's word.

Each environment will engage the text without softening its seriousness.

Outcome Goals

By the end of Week 5, participants should:

- Understand what sin is and how it entered the world
- Recognize the seriousness of disobedience
- See the need for God's mercy and redemption
- Be prepared for the promise of hope in Week 6



God's Holiness and Human Sin

Big Idea: Because humanity rebelled against God, sin entered the world and brought brokenness.

Primary Text: Genesis 3

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:6

Adults — Community Group (60 Minutes)

God's Holiness and Human Sin

CONNECT — 0–10 Minutes

Purpose: Lower defenses and invite honest conversation.

Icebreaker

- When have you learned (the hard way) that a choice had bigger consequences than expected?
- OR: Why do you think people resist the word “sin”?

ENCOUNTER — 10–20 Minutes

Purpose: Let Scripture speak clearly.

Leader Setup

“As we read Genesis 3, notice the progression: temptation, choice, consequence, response.”

Scripture Reading

The Fall

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3

The Serpent's Deception

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

2 The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.’”

4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent told her.

5 “For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

7 And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves.

God Arraigns Adam and Eve

8 Then the man and his wife heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the breeze of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

9 But the LORD God called out to the man, “Where are you?”

10 “I heard Your voice in the garden,” he replied, “and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.”

11 “Who told you that you were naked?” asked the LORD God. “Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

12 And the man answered, “The woman whom You gave me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” “The serpent deceived me,” she replied, “and I ate.”

The Fate of the Serpent

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and every beast of the field! On your belly will you go, and dust you will eat, all the days of your life.

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

The Punishment of Mankind

16 To the woman He said: “I will sharply increase your pain in childbirth; in pain you will bring forth children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

17 And to Adam He said: “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat, cursed is the ground because of you; through toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.

18 Both thorns and thistles it will yield for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your bread, until you return to the ground—because out of it were you taken. For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”

20 And Adam named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all the living.

The Expulsion from Paradise

21 And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and He clothed them.

22 Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil. And now, lest he reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever...”

23 Therefore the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

24 So He drove out the man and stationed cherubim on the east side of the Garden of Eden, along with a whirling sword of flame to guard the way to the tree of life.

ANCHOR — 20–40 Minutes

Purpose: Understand sin biblically.

Teaching Summary

Genesis 3 shows that sin begins with doubting God’s word and character. The serpent reframes God as restrictive rather than good. Adam and Eve choose autonomy over trust.

The immediate results are shame, hiding, and blame. Sin fractures relationships vertically and horizontally. God confronts sin honestly — not to crush humanity, but to name reality.

Digging Deeper

- How does the serpent twist God’s words?
- Why is mistrust at the core of sin?
- What does hiding reveal about the human heart?
- Why does God ask questions instead of remaining silent?

RESPOND — 40–55 Minutes

Purpose: Move toward confession and honesty.

Personal Reflection

- Where are you tempted to trust your own judgment over God's word?
- What patterns of hiding or blaming show up in your life?
- How does naming sin honestly prepare us for grace?

Group Sharing

Invite participants to share one insight or prayer request (no pressure).

SEND — 55–60 Minutes

Weekly Practice

Honest Confession — Spend time this week naming areas of mistrust before God and asking for a renewed trust in His goodness.

Closing Prayer

"Holy God, You see us clearly and love us fully. Help us walk in honesty, trust Your word, and prepare our hearts for Your mercy. Amen."

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God's Holiness and Human Sin

Big Idea: When we distrust God and choose our own way, sin brings brokenness.

Primary Text: Genesis 3

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:6

Youth Group (60 Minutes)

God's Holiness and Human Sin

CONNECT — 0–10 Minutes

Icebreaker: “Worth the Risk?”

Give a few scenarios (cheating to pass a test, lying to avoid trouble, breaking curfew, sharing a secret).

Have students vote: *worth it* or *not worth it*.

Transition:

“Tonight we’re talking about the first choice like that — and why it still matters.”

ENCOUNTER — 10–20 Minutes

Leader Setup:

“As we read Genesis 3, listen for how temptation works and what changes after the choice is made.”

Scripture Reading

The Temptation and the Fall

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3

The Serpent’s Deception

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

2 The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden,

3 but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.’”

4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent told her.

5 “For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

7 And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves.

God Arraigns Adam and Eve

8 Then the man and his wife heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the breeze of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

9 But the LORD God called out to the man, “Where are you?”

10 “I heard Your voice in the garden,” he replied, “and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.”

11 “Who told you that you were naked?” asked the LORD God. “Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

12 And the man answered, “The woman whom You gave me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” “The serpent deceived me,” she replied, “and I ate.”

The Fate of the Serpent

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and every beast of the field! On your belly will you go, and dust you will eat, all the days of your life.

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

The Punishment of Mankind

16 To the woman He said: “I will sharply increase your pain in childbirth; in pain you will bring forth children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

17 And to Adam He said: “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat, cursed is the ground because of you; through toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.

18 Both thorns and thistles it will yield for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your bread, until you return to the ground—because out of it were you taken. For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”

20 And Adam named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all the living.

The Expulsion from Paradise

21 And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and He clothed them.

22 Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil. And now, lest he reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever...”

23 Therefore the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

24 So He drove out the man and stationed cherubim on the east side of the Garden of Eden, along with a whirling sword of flame to guard the way to the tree of life.

ANCHOR — 20–35 Minutes

Teaching Point:

The serpent doesn't force Adam and Eve to sin. He invites them to question God's word and God's goodness. Sin begins when trust breaks.

Adam and Eve choose independence over obedience. The result is immediate shame, hiding, and blame. Sin promises freedom but delivers brokenness.

Key Line:

Sin is not just doing wrong — it is deciding we know better than God.

RESPOND — 35–50 Minutes

Group Discussion:

- How does temptation usually show up in real life?
- Why does independence feel so appealing?
- What kinds of “fig leaves” do people use today to hide shame?
- Why is honesty with God hard but necessary?

Let students answer honestly. Avoid rushing.

SEND — 50–60 Minutes

Weekly Challenge

This week, notice moments when you're tempted to trust yourself more than God. Choose honesty with God instead of hiding.

Memory Verse

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:6

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

Prayer

Invite students to silently confess areas where they struggle to trust God.

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God's Holiness and Human Sin

Primary Text: Genesis 3

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:6

Kids Church (60 Minutes)

God's Holiness and Human Sin

CONNECT — 0–10 Minutes

Game: "Follow the Leader... or Not?"

Have one leader give instructions that help the group succeed (walk slowly, stop together). Then give instructions that confuse things (go different directions).

Leader Transition:

"Today we're learning what happened when people chose not to listen to God."

ENCOUNTER — 10–20 Minutes

Leader Setup:

"As we listen to the Bible, listen for what God told Adam and Eve to do and what choice they made."

Scripture Reading

The Temptation

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:1-5

- 1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"
- 2 The woman answered the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden,
- 3 but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.'"
- 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent told her.

5 “For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

ANCHOR — 20–35 Minutes

Tell the Story (Kid-Friendly):

God gave Adam and Eve a good rule because He loved them. The serpent tried to make God seem untrustworthy. Adam and Eve chose not to listen to God.

When they disobeyed, sin entered the world. Everything changed — not because God stopped being good, but because sin brings brokenness.

Scripture Connection:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:6-7

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

7 And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves.

Ask:

- What choice did Adam and Eve make?
- How did they feel afterward?
- Why does God want us to listen to Him?

RESPOND — 35–50 Minutes

Activity: “Good Choice / Wrong Choice”

Give kids scenario cards (sharing, lying, obeying parents, sneaking candy).

Have them sort into “Trust God” or “Don’t Trust God.”

Explain:

“God’s rules help us live well. Sin hurts us and others.”

SEND — 50–60 Minutes

Memory Verse Motions

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:6

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

Use simple motions to help remember the verse.

Blessing

“Even when we make wrong choices, God still loves us and wants to help us.”

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Kids Sermon Activity Page

God's Holiness and Human Sin

Scripture: Genesis 3

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:6

SCRIPTURE LISTENING

As you listen to the sermon, hear these words from the Bible:

The Temptation

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:1-3

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"
 2 The woman answered the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden,
 3 but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.'"

SERMON LISTENING

Word Hunt: Listen carefully during the sermon. Make a tally mark each time you hear one of these words or ideas.

TRUST

Tally: _____

DISOBEY

Tally: _____

SIN

Tally: _____

HIDE

Tally: _____

GOD

Tally: _____

HEART RESPONSE

- Why is it important to trust God?
- What should we do when we make wrong choices?

SERMON MAP

Draw or write what you hear during the sermon.

1. God's Good Command

What did God tell Adam and Eve to do?

 Draw or write here:

2. The Wrong Choice

What choice did Adam and Eve make?

 Draw or write here:

3. The Result of Sin

How did Adam and Eve feel after they disobeyed?

 Draw or write here:

FAMILY TAKE-HOME

1. What does it mean to trust God?
2. Why does God want us to listen to Him?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:6

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

Circle one word that shows the choice Adam and Eve made.

Draw a picture to help you remember what happened.

 Draw here:

PRAYER

Write or draw a prayer asking God to help you trust and obey Him.

 Prayer space:



God's Holiness and Human Sin

Primary Text: Genesis 3

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:6

Family Worship — 5 Nights

God's Holiness and Human Sin

CONNECT — Night 1

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:1

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

Talk:

- What question does the serpent ask about God?
- Why do you think questioning God's word can be dangerous?

Pray:

Ask God to help your family trust His word.

ENCOUNTER — Night 2

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:2-5

2 The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, 3 but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.’” 4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent told her.

5 “For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Talk:

- How does the serpent make God seem unkind or unfair?
- Why is it tempting to believe God is holding something back?

Pray:

Thank God for being good and trustworthy.

ANCHOR — Night 3

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:6

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

Talk:

- What choice did Adam and Eve make?
- Why is choosing our own way sometimes easier than trusting God?

Pray:

Confess times when your family chooses its own way instead of God's.

RESPOND — Night 4

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:7-8

7 And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves.

8 Then the man and his wife heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the breeze of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Talk:

- How did Adam and Eve feel after they disobeyed?
- What does hiding show us about sin?

Pray:

Ask God to help your family come to Him honestly instead of hiding.

SEND — Night 5

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:9

9 But the LORD God called out to the man, “Where are you?”

Talk:

- Why do you think God goes looking for Adam and Eve?
- What does this show us about God’s heart?

Pray:

Thank God for loving us enough to seek us even when we mess up.

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God's Holiness and Human Sin

Primary Text: Genesis 3

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:6

Spouses — 5 Nights

God's Holiness and Human Sin

CONNECT — Night 1

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:1

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

Talk:

- How does mistrust toward God affect trust between people?
- Where do outside voices most influence your marriage?

Pray:

Ask God to help you trust His word together.

ENCOUNTER — Night 2

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:4-5

4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent told her.

5 “For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Talk:

- How does temptation distort God's goodness?
- Where are you tempted to define good and evil yourselves?

Pray:

Thank God for His wisdom and boundaries.

ANCHOR — Night 3

Read:**Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:6**

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

Talk:

- How do individual choices affect a shared relationship?
- Why is obedience important for unity?

Pray:

Confess areas where self-will has caused distance.

RESPOND — Night 4

Read:**Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:7-8**

7 And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves.

8 Then the man and his wife heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the breeze of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Talk:

- How does shame create distance between spouses?

- What does hiding look like in marriage?

Pray:

Ask God to help you walk in honesty and grace with one another.

SEND — Night 5

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:9

9 But the LORD God called out to the man, “Where are you?”

Talk:

- What does God's pursuit teach us about responsibility and love?
- How can you seek each other instead of withdrawing?

Pray:

Thank God for pursuing us with grace and invite Him to guide your marriage.

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God's Holiness and Human Sin

Primary Text: Genesis 3

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:6

Singles — 5 Nights

God's Holiness and Human Sin

CONNECT — Night 1

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:1

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

Talk:

- How does temptation often begin in subtle ways?
- What lies tend to challenge your trust in God?

Pray:

Ask God to sharpen your discernment.

ENCOUNTER — Night 2

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:4-5

4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent told her.
5 “For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Talk:

- What promises does temptation make?
- How does sin disguise itself as freedom?

Pray:

Thank God for defining good and evil clearly.

ANCHOR — Night 3

Read:**Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:6**

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

Talk:

- What does this verse reveal about desire and decision?
- Where are you most tempted to trust yourself over God?

Pray:

Confess areas of self-reliance and ask for renewed trust.

RESPOND — Night 4

Read:**Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:7**

7 And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves.

Talk:

- How does shame show up after sin?
- Why do we often hide instead of repent?

Pray:

Ask God for courage to live honestly before Him.

SEND — Night 5

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:9

9 But the LORD God called out to the man, “Where are you?”

Talk:

- What does God's question reveal about His character?
- How does this prepare your heart for grace?

Pray:

Thank God for pursuing relationship, not distance.

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God's Holiness and Human Sin

Big Idea: Because humanity rebelled against God, sin entered the world and broke our relationship with Him.

Primary Text: Genesis 3

Week 5 Sermon

God's Holiness and Human Sin

Introduction

Genesis 3 explains the world we live in.

It explains why trust is hard, why shame feels familiar, why relationships fracture, and why death exists. Scripture does not treat sin lightly — because God's holiness is not light.

After seeing God as holy and near in Isaiah 6, we now see what happens when humanity chooses independence over trust.

Scripture Reading

The Fall

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3

The Serpent's Deception

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

2 The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, 3 but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.’”

4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent told her.

5 “For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

7 And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves.

God Arraigns Adam and Eve

8 Then the man and his wife heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the breeze of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

9 But the LORD God called out to the man, “Where are you?”

10 “I heard Your voice in the garden,” he replied, “and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.”

11 “Who told you that you were naked?” asked the LORD God. “Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

12 And the man answered, “The woman whom You gave me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” “The serpent deceived me,” she replied, “and I ate.”

The Fate of the Serpent

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and every beast of the field! On your belly will you go, and dust you will eat, all the days of your life.

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

The Punishment of Mankind

16 To the woman He said: “I will sharply increase your pain in childbirth; in pain you will bring forth children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

17 And to Adam He said: “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat, cursed is the ground because of you; through toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.

18 Both thorns and thistles it will yield for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your bread, until you return to the ground—because out of it were you taken. For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”

20 And Adam named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all the living.

The Expulsion from Paradise

21 And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and He clothed them.

22 Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil. And now, lest he reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever...”

23 Therefore the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

24 So He drove out the man and stationed cherubim on the east side of the Garden of Eden, along with a whirling sword of flame to guard the way to the tree of life.

Point 1 — Sin Begins with Distrusting God’s Word

The serpent does not begin by commanding disobedience. He begins by questioning God’s word and character. Doubt replaces trust.

Temptation often sounds reasonable. It promises wisdom, freedom, and control — but it always asks us to believe that God is withholding something good.

Sin begins when we decide we know better than God.

Point 2 — Sin Leads to Shame and Separation

When Adam and Eve disobey, the immediate result is not freedom — it is shame. They hide from God and from each other.

Sin distorts relationships:

- With God (fear replaces fellowship)
- With others (blame replaces unity)
- With self (shame replaces peace)

Sin promises life but produces death.

Point 3 — God Confronts Sin Honestly

God does not ignore sin, excuse it, or minimize it. He confronts it directly. There are real consequences for rebellion — pain, brokenness, and death.

Yet even here, God's holiness is not cruel. He seeks out Adam and Eve. He speaks. He names the problem.

Judgment and mercy are not opposites — they are both expressions of God's holiness.

Big Truth Revisited

Because humanity rebelled against God, sin entered the world and broke our relationship with Him.

Understanding sin rightly prepares us to understand grace rightly.

Call to Response

Consider:

- Where are you tempted to trust your own judgment over God's word?
- What forms of hiding or blaming show up in your life?
- Why is honesty before God the first step toward healing?

Genesis 3 is not the end of the story — but it explains why the story must move toward redemption.

Transition to Next Week

Next week, we will see that even in judgment, God speaks hope.

Genesis 3:15 points us toward God's mercy and the promise of rescue.

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