

God's Mercy in the Midst of Judgment



Big Idea: Even in judgment, God promises mercy and hope.

Primary Text: Genesis 3:15

Memory Verse: Genesis 3:15

Week 6 Overview

God's Mercy in the Midst of Judgment

Weekly Aim

Week 6 reveals the **first promise of redemption** in Scripture. After humanity's rebellion and the entrance of sin into the world, God speaks a word of mercy directly into the moment of judgment. Genesis 3:15 shows that God's response to sin is not abandonment but promise.

This week helps God's people see that hope is not humanity's idea — it is **God's initiative**.

Primary Scripture Reading

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 3:15

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. ”

Big Truth

Because God is merciful, He promises redemption even when humanity deserves judgment.

Genesis 3:15 introduces the long story of God's rescue plan. Though spoken in a moment of curse and consequence, this verse points forward to a coming victory over evil and the restoration of what sin has broken.

Theological Emphasis

- God remains sovereign even after the Fall
- Judgment does not cancel God's mercy
- Redemption begins with a promise, not human effort
- God declares hope before humanity ever asks for it

Genesis 3:15 is often called the *first gospel* because it announces that evil will not have the final word.

Narrative Flow in the Series

- **Week 4:** God is holy and near
- **Week 5:** Humanity rebels and sin brings brokenness
- **Week 6:** God promises mercy and victory over evil

This week marks a **turning point** — from diagnosis to hope — while still honoring the seriousness of sin.

Discipleship Outcome

By the end of Week 6, participants should:

- Understand that redemption is God's idea, not ours
- See God as merciful even when He judges sin
- Begin to trace God's rescue plan through Scripture
- Respond with hope rooted in God's promise, not circumstances

Preparation Notes for Leaders

- Avoid rushing past Genesis 3:15 too quickly
- Let the promise stand before explaining its fulfillment
- Emphasize God's initiative and faithfulness
- Keep the focus on **promise**, not full resolution yet

Looking Ahead

This promise will echo throughout Scripture as God unfolds His plan to rescue and restore humanity. What begins as a word spoken in the garden will shape the entire story of redemption.

