

START HERE #7: GENESIS 3 "IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM"

woman in England played the lottery weekly. Same process. EuroMillions posted NUMBERS SHE 1! When she asked her husband – THROWN AWAY LOST \$181 Million LOSS- IMAGINE...

LOSS: the biggest fail - THE FALL Original sin – ANSWERS BIGGEST QUESTIONS TRACE. Evil. Selfishness. Greed. Hate. Violence. Exploitation. Lying. Gossip. **WORLDS EXPL:** victims, if circumstances were different, a sickness.

THREE LETTER WORD – SIN

The depravity of man is at once the most unpopular of all dogmas, but the most empirically verifiable. Malcolm Muggeridge

In a recent Barna survey 50% of people said they weren't sure why they give in to temptation. And only 1% said it was because of a sinful nature.

MP: If you want to transform your relationships you need to identify what the problem is.

STORY TELLS US WHY HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS ARE HARD

UP AGAINST 3 ENEMIES- Anti-God (sinister enemy against everything that God is for); Corrupt Influence All Around You (world, anti-God philosophies); Evil Desire within

DON'T BE FOOLED – Enemy who hates you – hates your relationships

(1) Twists God's Word – Has God said. No.no.no.

- CONFUSE: Same thing he did in the desert – no confusion Jesus stood on truth

(2) Questions God's Character – He knows in the day....

- DECEIVE: You can't trust God.

(3) Lies About the Consequence – you won't die

- DISBELIEVE: it won't be like god said – it will be different for you

OUR CULTURE IS A PETRI DISH OF SIN

The culture is naturally aligned against those things that please God.

1 John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway* of the wicked one.

1 John 2:15 If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

- By the time we get to NOAH - Evil will be called good and good evil

IT'S AN INSIDE JOB NOW

The problem isn't only the influence of the world and Satan, it's also our own fallen nature. It's not just that world is toxic. We are toxic. Heart is deceitful and wicked.

- Adam federal head (REP): Image of God - Garden of Eden - Slaves2Sin

Romans 6:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned

It's not just that the world is toxic. We are toxic. The heart is deceitful and wicked.

We sin because we are sinners. We aren't sinners because we sin.

WHAT WENT WRONG AND 6 WAYS TO LIVE TRUTH

Too close to the tree

- Physically and mentally shouldn't have been there – present/contemplating

LT: don't entertain sin. Don't get close to sin. IT'S THE SMALL COMPROMISES

It's not how close you can get to the line it's how far away you can get from it.

Shouldn't have had the conversation in the first place

- Serpent was cunning – “probably not good” - DISCERNMENT
- Once the conversation went south she should have left – **CUT IT OFF**

LT: Remember that the devil is behind every temptation. Cut it off.

Matthew 5:29 If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

- The devil is the enemy (not your spouse/kids/friends)

No Mutual Support

WHERE WAS ADAM – AWOL – MIA – FAILED LEADER

Q: Families are missing strong male spiritual leadership.

LT: Healthy relationships lead people to God not away from God, to obey God not sin.

- Dating: should be a key indication that you are with the right person
- Parenting: Not giving your kids a safe place to sin

Running from God instead of running to God

Fear, shame and broken relationships – RESULT OF SIN

- What if they would have turned to God first?

LT: Choose to run to God with your problems.

- God can fix relationship failures – **CONSEQUENCES MAY PERSIST**

Your greatest failures can become God's greatest miracles and your greatest lessons.

Blame Shifting instead of repentance

LT: Own your sin.

- Don't shift the blame to someone else - examples

GOD STILL LOVES

WHAT WAS GOD DOING IN THEIR WORST MOMENT – PURSUING

- A TREE FOR A TREE

LT: Cultivate atmosphere of forgiveness.

When you play with sin you get burned