

TRANSFORM YOUR RELATIONSHIPS START HERE

Week 7 | Identify The Problem | Genesis 3

WHEN YOU PLAY WITH SIN YOU GET BURNED

The story is told of a woman who played the lottery weekly, meticulously following the same pattern. She would buy the ticket, write down the numbers in her notebook and then give the ticket to her husband to hold on to. One day as the EuroMillions winning numbers were posted, she hurried to her notebook to read the numbers only to find that she had won! However, when she went to retrieve the winning ticket from her husband, she was crushed to discover that he had thrown the ticket away, probably because he was so used to losing. The loss was a stunning \$181 million! Who can fathom making such a horrible decision that would cost so much? Well, the answer is Adam and Eve. In fact, their failure has cost much more over thousands of years of human history. Thank God that He can redeem our failures. And as we carefully study Genesis 3, we will discover that the failures of Adam and Eve provide some of the strongest lessons on how to transform our relationships.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



PRAY (10 min)

As a Home Group, take time to consider how God has rescued you from bad decisions. Spend time in prayer thanking God for His forgiveness and grace.



REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. Pastor Derek mentioned three enemies that make having healthy relationships very difficult. **What are those enemies? Describe why they make healthy relationships hard (i.e., why you can't follow the culture's cues on relationships).**
2. **Why do you think the serpent attacked God's word when he was tempting Eve? Why is God's word important when it comes to our relationships? Provide some Scripture references to support.**
3. Adam and Eve should have run to God, not from God. **Are there issues in your life that you need to bring to God? Are there relationships that you need to trust Him with or that you need His help to handle? Create a prayer list and begin to pray regularly and earnestly for God to help you with these things.**

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

4. It appears from Scripture that Adam was present when Eve was being deceived. If so, he failed to lead his wife towards God.

With that in mind, would your friends and family say that you influence them to love God and grow spiritually? How can you be a better spiritual influence?

Healthy relationships lead people to God not away from God. To obey God, not to sin against Him.

5. When Eve's conversation started going in the wrong direction with the serpent, she should have immediately cut it off.

Are there compromises or sins in your life that need to be cut off?

Remember that the devil is behind every temptation. When you play with sin you will get burned.



WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

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.



REACH (5 min)

Considering what God revealed to you this week, identify areas of compromise or even spiritual strongholds in your life. Give them to God in repentance, receive His forgiveness and His new mercies. Then, share His mercy with those around you.

Next week we will be anxiously waiting to hear about the new work that God is doing in your life.

Dear Home Group Leader,

The following questions have been added to the Home Group curriculum to minister specifically to marriages. Even though not all of your people are married, please try to work these "Mindful of Marriage" questions in at the end of your meeting as they can benefit all.

If you don't have time to cover these questions in your meeting, please give the questions to the married couples as homework to do together. Thank you!

MINDFUL OF MARRIAGE...

- As a husband or wife, in what way does your attitude or behavior lead your spouse toward God?
- God's mercy and grace has been poured out abundantly in your life. How can you demonstrate that same mercy and grace to your spouse?
- What steps can you take in your family that demonstrates a lifestyle of forgiveness?