

E2E: Pt. 7a—Life in the Garden

Genesis 2 & 3

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1. Garden life with God in Genesis is comparable to the imagery of Heaven. (Isaiah 45:18, Genesis 2:9)
2. The Garden in Eden was a protected place of pristine beauty and bounty, a place of intimacy with a loving God with whom they are in relationship. God walks among them during the day.
3. Humans were chosen to be in relationship with Him for all eternity – This planet, in its unfallen condition, was a reflection of His passionate love for us, and His intention to have permanent relationship with us.
4. The serpent's approach is to get Eve to question God's Word. Questioning leads to distrust, which leads to disobedience. (Genesis 3:1)
5. God's word is not subject to human judgment or feeling.
6. Satan focuses Eve on what she doesn't have, and it sets her up to evaluate God's authority – Satan doesn't want you to think about what you **do** have. (Genesis 3:2-3)
7. Eve's moment of failure is the moment she believes something other than God. (Genesis 3:6)
8. Adam and Eve's conversation with God is evasive and deceptive, no longer is holiness in them. (Genesis 3:8-12)
9. God determines to clothe us, to deal with our nakedness, by dressing us in His righteousness. (Genesis 3:21)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Where do you have difficulty trusting God with your life? In what way?
2. Where do you have difficulty trusting the Bible as being reliable? Why?
3. Is there a "tree" in your life that God has said is not good for you to "eat" from, but you struggle to trust Him and obey Him?
4. In what way are you believing your life would be better if you had ____? How does knowing God hasn't given it to you affect how you think of Him, or your willingness/ability to trust Him?
5. Sin has impaired our ability to take dominion of the earth for the glory of God (Gen. 1:26). How do humans and societies fail to obey this divine mandate?
6. How do you personally fail to obey God's command that you exercise 'righteous' dominion over the world?
7. James 3:7-10 draws out the fact that all people are made in God's image, as a result it should affect our daily behavior. According to this passage, how do our words deface the image of God in man?
8. Can we rightly claim to love God if we curse or defame other people, especially other Christians?
9. What are some of the ways governments and societies fail to treat human life with the dignity it deserves? What can you as an individual do to impact your social circle with the reality of the dignity of human beings?

We encourage you to dig in and try to answer these questions for yourself. Then, get together with your small group to discuss. If you don't have a group but want to talk through these things - feel free to contact the church office so we can help you.