



November 5th Sermon Questions

Foundations: Of Sin and Fall

Genesis 3:1-13

Icebreaker: Play 'Two Truths & a Lie'. Take turns sharing 3 things about yourselves. Share two true things and one thing that is a lie, then have the rest of the group try to guess which is the lie.

Discussion Questions: Read the scripture verses above.

1. The following is often said at meal times: "God is great. God is good. Let us thank him for our food...." This prayer teaches the simple yet sometimes difficult truth that God is both powerful and benevolent. Do you find it hard to believe in both of these divine attributes? If so, why do you think that is? Do you tend towards one of these characteristics--greatness or goodness--over the other?
2. The Westminster Shorter Catechism- a Reformation-era statement of faith to which our church adheres- defines "sin" as "any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God." What do you think about this brief explanation? Does it make sense to you? Do you like it? How would you explain "sin" in your own words to someone?
3. In verse 2 the serpent interrogates and deceitfully questions God's Word. How does he do this and what do you think he is trying to accomplish?
4. What is Eve's response to this first temptation (vv.2-3)? How does her reply compare to God's original command in 2:16-17?
5. In verses 4-5, the serpent interrogates and deceitfully questions God's character. How does he do this and what do you think he is trying to accomplish?

6. Additionally, in verses 4-5, the serpent tempts Eve with the false promise of power and control. How does he do this and what do you think he is trying to accomplish?
7. What is Eve's response to the second and third temptations (v.6)?
8. The serpent's diabolical lies sink into the hearts and minds of Adam and Eve, causing them not to trust God's Word, God's goodness, and God's greatness. It's easy to judge Adam and Eve, but the reality is that we are just like our first parents and fall into the same temptations and sins. In what ways do you question or doubt God's Word?
9. In what ways do you question or doubt God's goodness and/or greatness?
10. How does the idol of power tempt you away from God?
11. In response to their sin Adam and Eve instinctively tried to cover up and hide from God (vv.7-8). How have you experienced this impulse in your life?
12. Thankfully, God doesn't allow sin to have the last word in this passage. He graciously pursues our first parents (v.9). How have you experienced "the Hound of Heaven" chasing after you?
13. What do you think God is calling you to believe and/or do in response to our discussion tonight? How can this group help you in that?