

# 2

## Group Guide

### The Fall

*January 14, 2023*

#### Main Passage: Genesis 3

#### Theological Theme

Because of the fall, all of Creation has become subject to sin, evil, and death.

#### Introduction

- ❓ What are some of the “why” questions you commonly hear from the kids around you?
- ❓ When have you asked or been asked a version of the question about evil in the world?

#### 1. The Temptation (Genesis 3:1-5)

After God created the world and everything in it, we pick up the narrative with Adam and Eve in the garden. Chapter three introduces the serpent and describes him as more crafty or cunning than any other creature. Although the serpent is not identified as Satan in the first few verses, it is made clear that this is an encounter between Eve and Satan.

- ❓ When have you experienced defeat because you tried to outsmart Satan on your own instead of by the power of Jesus?
- ❓ What is the danger of opening yourself to the ideas of Satan or anyone who is in opposition to God? How is this different than listening with a godly mindset to someone who disagrees with you?
- ❓ Application: What can you learn from seeing the progression of this passage to help you avoid falling prey to the enemy yourself?

#### 2. The Fall (Genesis 3:6-13)

The fall of mankind started with a conversation and a temptation specifically designed for Eve just as the enemy specifically designs temptations that come to every Christian. Eve gave in to the temptation the same way we surrender today. She listened to the wrong voice that was questioning God. She entertained the enemy. She looked at the temptation and desired it. She ultimately gave in to the desire of her flesh and the lure of pride.

- ❓ How often can you see this same pattern repeated in your life? Where along the way do you have opportunity to shut the enemy down? When have you done this and what difference did it make?

- ❓ Why do you think we, like Adam and Eve, tend to try and cover up our sin with the things of our own making? Why does this always come up short?
- ❓ Application: What does this text teach you about how to respond when you've sinned? What should we do different than Adam and Eve? What makes this difficult?

### 3. The Consequences (Genesis 3:14-24)

Sin has consequences. We know this from Scripture, and we know it from experience. This original sin had consequences for the serpent, Adam, and Eve. The serpent would be cursed to slither along the ground and there would be enmity between the offspring of the woman and the serpent. Many people have a very natural and sometimes highly exaggerated enmity with snakes. But God's words here went deeper. Verses 14 and 15, known as the proto-evangelium, is the first proclamation of the good news. This serpent crushing offspring of the woman would be the answer to the brokenness just caused by the fall. Despite the devastation Adam and Eve faced, God promised a solution.

- ❓ What does it teach you about God that even in response to the first act of human rebellion, He promised a solution and a way of restoration with Him?
- ❓ What does God's response to Adam and Eve teach you about the accountability every person has for their sin before God? How does this remind you that you can't rely on another person's faith but must be in relationship with God yourself?
- ❓ Application: How does the sacrifice of the first animals for the covering of sins remind you of the cost that had to be paid for your sins? Why was the sacrifice of Christ worth infinitely more than anything or anyone else?

### Conclusion

- ❓ What ways or places have you allowed the enemy to speak into your life in some way? What needs to change to stop this cycle?
- ❓ How can we as a group support one another in seeking Jesus as the solution to the problems we face and not looking for a fix in our own power or wisdom?
- ❓ How can you have a gospel conversation with another person by sharing the story of the fall?