

## We Believe: The Fall Genesis 3:1-7

### Community Group Questions

1. When did you realize your relationship with God was broken and needed to be repaired?
2. Have you had a time of suffering in your life? How did you get through that suffering?
3. Has anyone ever asked you why God allows suffering? How did you answer?
4. Have you had a sin struggle in your life that seemed like you can never have victory over?

Article #5 part 2 *“man sinned and incurred physical and spiritual death, thus we believe that by nature and choice we are sinners and apart from Christ, shall be forever separated from God”*

The main topic we will deal with today is “The Fall”.

The origin of sin is with Lucifer Ezekiel 28:11-19 & Isaiah 14:12-15 in which we have the account of a beautiful angel that God lifted up to the highest level and he sinned against God by thinking he was greater than God. Then we fast forward to Genesis 3:1-7 and we witness Satan deceiving Adam and Eve and tempting them to fall, like he did. So Adam and Eve sinned by disobeying the Lord and eating from the “Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil” we call this “The Fall”

We have the first two humans dealing with one command that God gave and they disobeyed. What is the big deal? Romans 5:12-13 tells us what the deal is...

*Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law.*

The big deal is with the entrance of sin in the world comes the entrance of death, not only physical death but spiritual death as well. Knowing this...what are all the implications of the fall?

### **The Fall...**

**-Broke the relationship between humans and God. \*Gen 3:8-13**

Because Adam and Eve sinned against God by disobeying His command and listening to Satan they now had something to hide. Guilt and shame entered in and that is why they hid from God. But now think about the relationships that you have in life...have you ever did something against someone and you did not want to face them? That is how they felt.

Adam and Eve knew that they disobeyed because God told them not to eat that fruit but they also know because as verse 7 tells us *"their eyes were opened"* talking about their spiritual eyes, their innocence was gone and now they knew what sin was and that they were sinners.

One of the biggest lies that we can fall for is calling things that are sinful not sinful, here is why. Once we personally accept sinful things as not sinful we believe we are in good standing with God our creator. Once we think we are in good standing we do not see that we have any problem with our relationship with Him but the problem is...He still sees the problem and that problem is a broken relationship with God.

I remember talking to a person that said to me *"if there is a God and heaven, He will see that I am a good person and I will go to heaven"*

The truth is because we sin it breaks our relationship with God and because we sin none of us are good people.

If our relationship is broken how do we fix it? The bad news is that we can't...the good news is...Jesus can. Which brings us to our next point...the fall...

**-Reminds us of the Love of God. \*Romans 5:6-11**

This passage tells us about

- Our condition...weak, sinners that were enemies of God
- Our need...to be saved from God's wrath
- The love of God...that Jesus was willing to lay down His life for us..."*while we were still sinners*" it does not say while you cleaned up your act and Jesus noticed that you were giving it your best shot.
- What happens to our relationship with God...we are reconciled to God.

So we started with a broken relationship, Jesus fixed it by loving us but "The Fall" is still in full effect while we are in this life. Lets look at 3 ongoing effects of "The Fall" ...

**-Suffering.**

The age-old apologetic question is...*How can a good God allowing suffering?* As the argument goes is either God is good and He is not in control and can do nothing about suffering or God is in control and because of suffering in the world He must not be good.

Both are faulty reasoning and here is why, humans disobedience (sin) is at the root of all suffering.

Listen to **\*Gen 3:16-19**

So the basic answer to the question of suffering is that suffering is directly related to sin, because we live in a fallen world there will be suffering.

I can't stand here and explain all the suffering and atrocities of this world and claim to know why each one has happened. But we can know a few things about what suffering reminds us of...

Suffering reminds us...

- Our need for deliverance (something better)
- What eternity would be like away from God
- To not blame God... you can question Him but you cannot blame Him because He is not the one that sinned or causes anyone to sin.

Not only because of the fall we have to deal with suffering we have to live with the...

**-Curse on creation.** *Gen 3:17 "cursed is the ground you walk on".*

This explains why work is hard, why there are natural disasters, why things deteriorate, get old and die.

*Romans 8:22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.*

Creation will remain under a curse until all things are made new and that will happen when Jesus makes all things new. Until that time we are constantly reminded the effects the fall has.

Because of the fall we have to deal with suffering and live with the curse on creation, we will also...

### **-Struggle with sin**

We know that Jesus saves us from our sin and we will not pay for our sin in eternity but the struggle of sin is a very real struggle why we are on this earth.

In **\*Romans 7:14-20** Paul talks about that and I think we can all understand His struggle, because we do things wrong and in many cases things we do not want to do, things we regret doing, things we feel guilt and shame about but we continue to do those things. So Paul is saying "yup me too"

But listen to the way Paul resolves this **\*Romans 7:21-25**

Here is what Paul is saying...Thank you Jesus for future deliverance...

He does not say *"I need to try harder and be a better person"* he says I need to focus on Jesus because He is the only one that can break the chains of the fall.

*As Christians we can together imagine a day that effects of the fall will be broken and all things will be made new. And we can know that is the truth because He sent His Son Jesus to restore our relationship with Him.*