

Week of 01-22-2023

Series: The Story, Ch. 1, Pt. 4

Sermon: What Went Wrong

Text: Genesis 3

Sermon Outline:

The Pattern of Sin...

1. We question God's Word. (1-4)
2. We question God's goodness. (5)
3. We trust ourselves. (6)

The Consequences of Sin...

1. Shame. (7)
2. Fear. (8-10)
3. Broken Relationships. (11-13)
4. Cursed world. (14-18)
5. Death. (19)

The Solution for Sin...

1. A promised offspring. (15)
2. A provisional sacrifice. (20-21)
3. A temporary separation. (22-24)

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Genesis 3:1-6. Before Satan said God was lying, he lied about what God said through a question.

Let's look at God's original command in Genesis 2:16: And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Then in Genesis 3:1, the serpent said: ""Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"

Then in Genesis 3:2, Eve said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

Notice that Satan did NOT start out saying: "You can eat of the knowledge tree and you will be fine."

Also notice that Satan did NOT start out asking: "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of the knowledge tree?'"

- Why didn't Satan just make a statement?
- Why didn't Satan just ask a direct question about the knowledge tree?
- Do you think Satan (or one of his fallen angels) are having conversations w/ you and you don't realize it? Have you noticed that in the past or present? How do you guard against that for the future?

2. Eve responded back to Satan with God's original Word. Well mostly!
 - What did she (or Adam) add from the original command in Genesis 2:17?

Not getting near temptation can be a good thing (such as telling yourself 'do not touch' when really the command was 'not to eat'). However, the best defense is good offense: Such as growing in your trust of God's Word and His goodness.

- What have you done in certain areas of your life to withstand temptation?
3. Is it a good idea to talk back to Satan when he talks to you? If so, how should we respond? (Reference Matthew 4:1-11).
 4. The root of all sin basically comes down to unbelief and pride. Here Eve questioned God's Word and His goodness (unbelief) and she trusted herself (pride). Do you see unbelief and pride in your own struggles with temptation? How can you attack temptation at its roots?
 5. Notice Genesis 3:6. Where was Adam while this conversation was happening? How early in this process was he to blame? What does this say about the importance of relationships and the responsibility we bear with one another?
 - Note: We might could make the argument that Eve sinned at least twice and Adam sinned a least twice. Discuss where you might see the multiple times they sinned in v6.
 6. Read Genesis 3:7-19. As of result of this "original sin", man now experiences psychological disintegration (shame), spiritual alienation (fear), social disintegration (broken relationships), and physical disintegration (cursed world and death). Where in your life has the consequences of sin been particularly difficult?
 7. Read Genesis 3:20-24. The thought that people enslaved to sin living forever is a horrifying thought for mankind and the world we live in. Notice what the world was like in Genesis 6:1-5, when people were living up to 900+ years! But Jesus came to reverse the curse, so that we could be set free from sin and then live forever. Read Romans 16:20 and discuss the role that we have while God is "making all things new" (Revelation 21:5)