

## Lessons in Life -- Lesson 12 – God Comes to Eden Part 3

### Notes And Helps to Instructors

Thank you for volunteering to lead a group through the treasures of God's word! You may feel overwhelmed or inadequate, but you can do this! The leader notes are designed to help you grow in knowledge and love for Christ and for you to help pass what you have received to your group. Here are some suggestions to help equip you to grow in your teaching and leading ability.

- These lessons could simply be read, and a group would receive something but that is not how they are designed. The notes are designed to grow you as a leader so you might tailor the lesson for the needs of your group. Some groups may not have much of a knowledge base in the bible, so the concepts must be brought down to their level. Other groups may have a large knowledge base and you may challenge them with more information. The key is to know your group. If you begin leading a group in one way and find that it is not connecting, it is alright to modify and bring down or raise up the level of information.
- The more preparation you do the stronger you will be as a leader. Let the study material be a joy for you! Let it feed you as you prepare! The more you are fed the more you have to give to your group.
- There is no set time on how long a lesson may take. Lessons could be slowed down and take several weeks to finish. Perhaps in leading a group, one question captivates the group and leads to a fruitful conversation. If that happens, that is good! You are in no hurry. If you can finish the material in a week, then great! But if it takes several, that is great as well! The important thing is that they receive deeply from the gospel of Jesus.
- Pray about your lesson! Pray as you prepare! Pray as you teach! Remember we do not teach or exercise our gifts in our own strength. The Holy Spirit is the one who opens the heart and mind. Pray for the Spirit to move in your heart and the heart of the group.

May our merciful Triune God bless your study and your group that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith-- that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

In Christ,

Prison Discipleship Ministry

## Lessons in Life -- Lesson 12 – God Comes to Eden Part 3

**Introduction:** Re-read Genesis 3:1-10. In this lesson we look at 3:11 where God continues His conversation with Adam.

**Read this passage at least five times then answer the questions as best you can:**

<sup>11</sup> And He said, "Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" (Gen. 3:11 NKJ)

In 3:11 God asks Adam two questions. What is the first question?

That question is not answered directly in the text. How did Adam know that he was naked? What voice spoke to Adam? Romans 2:14-16 tells us about that voice. What is the name of that voice? Who has that voice?

What does that voice speak about? What is written in every man's heart? Who wrote it there?

What law is Paul talking about? Read Exodus 20:1-20 for a summary of that law.

Who outside of a person uses the law written on the heart to convict a person's conscience?

Do you hear that voice? What is God speaking through your conscience saying to you? (You do not need to write that answer here. Take that answer to God in prayer. Remember that God is near to the humble.)

## Lessons in Life -- Lesson 12 – God Comes to Eden Part 3

**Introduction:** Re-read Genesis 3:1-10. In this lesson we look at 3:11 where God continues His conversation with Adam.

**Read this passage at least five times then answer the questions as best you can:**

<sup>11</sup> And He said, "Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" (Gen. 3:11 NKJ)

In 3:11 God asks Adam two questions. What is the first question?

God first asked Adam, "Who told you that you were naked?"

That question is not answered directly in the text. How did Adam know that he was naked? What voice spoke to Adam? Romans 2:14-16 tells us about that voice. What is the name of that voice? Who has that voice?

Romans 2:14-16 says, "14 For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. 15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them 16 on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus. (ESV)" Notice in verse 14 that the work of the law is written on their hearts while their CONSCIENCE also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them. It is Adam's conscience that told them that they had sinned, felt guilt and shame, and let them know that they were now naked and exposed. And everyone has that voice as we all have a conscience. Either we listen to it or ignore it until it becomes quiet. 1 Tim 4:2 speaks of those who have seared their consciences so they cannot respond to it anymore.

What does that voice speak about? What is written in every man's heart? Who wrote it there?

That voice speaks about the law that is written in the heart of every man and it written there by God. It testifies to us that we have broken God's law and that we are sinners who are in desperate need of the grace of Jesus. Proof of the fact that the law of God is written on everyone's heart is that there has never been a people group who thinks stealing is o.k. Even if stealing is part of their culture, they know that it can't be done willi-nilli and just try to steal from them as see if they consider it wrong? We all know it is wrong to steal, to kill, commit adultery, etc. The law is written on our hearts and none of us can deny it is there.

What law is Paul talking about? Read Exodus 20:1-20 for a summary of that law.

The law is the 10 commandments which are found in Exodus 20:1-20.

## Lessons in Life -- Lesson 12 – God Comes to Eden Part 3

Who outside of a person uses the law written on the heart to convict a person's conscience?

It is God who judges men according to the law which is written on our hearts. All of us, if we are honest and listen to the voice of our conscience know that we have all sinned in breaking God's holy law in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved God perfectly and have not loved our neighbor as we love ourselves. All of us know that if God would judge us based on his law, we would be found guilty. If we listen to our conscience, we all know that we can do nothing to clear away our sins by our own works. We cannot "make-up" for what we have done and what we have failed to do. What we need is another record; one that is perfect.

That is the good news of the gospel! Christ has come and lived the life we could not live, and He died the death our sins deserve. By faith in Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we receive his perfect life lived under the law and his perfect death paying the penalty of the law. Christ proved the perfection of his work by rising from the grave on the third day.

Our conscience calls us to repent of our sins. Repentance occurs when a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, does, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience (Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question #87). Our conscience calls us to put our faith in Christ. When we have faith in Christ we receive the work of Christ as ours and we rest in his work alone. Jesus promises that all who do will find Him a perfect Savior.

Do you hear that voice? What is God speaking through your conscience saying to you? (You do not need to write that answer here. Take that answer to God in prayer. Remember that God is near to the humble.)