

Lessons in Life -- Lesson 14 – God Comes to Eden Part 5

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

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Introduction: Re-read Genesis 3:1-11. In this lesson (Genesis 3:12) we will look at Adam's answer to God's two questions in Genesis 3:11. Before doing this lesson you should review Lessons 11, 12, and 13.

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

12 Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." (Gen. 3:9-12 NKJ)

As a results of Adam's disobedience, at least three things happened: (1) Adam was afraid of God (2) Adam felt guilt before God and (3) Adam felt shame.

Why did God ask Adam those two questions in verse 11?

Whom does Adam blame first for his fear, guilt, and shame?

What does Adam mean by "You gave to be with me"? Who is Adam really blaming?

Re-read Genesis 2. God created the woman after He told Adam about the tree. Whose responsibility was it to teach and lead the woman?

Read Ephesians 5:22-33. If a husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church, what has Adam done that proves he does not love Eve?

Here are three exercises to help you apply what Genesis 3:11 teaches us. You do not need to write the answers here, but you do need to write them out making a prayer list. Lay these matters before God asking Him to help you:

Make a list of the ways you have not loved your wife (if you are married) or not loved your family or not loved the inmates and officers around you.

Make a list of the ways you have blamed God for your circumstances.

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God is a God who redeems and rescues us from our sin when we are dead (Ephesians 2:1-10; Romans 5:8). Ask God to show you how He will use your past to make you an ambassador for Christ (Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21).

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As a results of Adam’s disobedience, at least three things happened: (1) Adam was afraid of God (2) Adam felt guilt before God and (3) Adam felt shame.

Why did God ask Adam those two questions in verse 11?

God did not ask those questions because he sought information. God knows all things. He asked those questions to try to lead Adam to repentance. God called him to judgment and was seeking his heart to answer, “I have sinned against you and against my wife, I repent Lord, please forgive me.” But he did not do that. God is always merciful and kind in his love towards us. It is his kindness that leads us to repentance (Rom 2:4).

Whom does Adam blame first for his fear, guilt, and shame?

Adam blames his wife, “The woman whom You gave to be with me...”

What does Adam mean by “You gave to be with me”? Who is Adam really blaming?

By saying this, he really means God. God gave him the woman, so he is really blaming God. He is saying, “God, if you gave me a better woman, a better partner, then this wouldn’t have happened. This is really your fault.”

Re-read Genesis 2. God created the woman after He told Adam about the tree. Whose responsibility was it to teach and lead the woman?

It was Adam’s responsibility as the king-priest in the garden and as her husband. We know it was his responsibility as he was the one called to account to God and not Eve.

Read Ephesians 5:22-33. If a husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church, what has Adam done that proves he does not love Eve?

He did not submit to Christ and did not imitate Christ in his obedience which the husband is to show to his wife (v. 25). He did not sanctify his wife and wash her with the word (v. 26). He did not love his wife like his own body and cherish her (v. 29).

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