

The Mother of Us: Eve

Although her story is short, Eve's story is a very important part of the origin of women. Made in the image of God from the rib of Adam, (Genesis 2:21-23) Eve was created to be a helper to Adam. Together they were to oversee the Garden of Eden. They only had two rules: 1. Obey God and 2. Obey God's rule not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge (Genesis 2:17). Yet with just a simple bite of the "forbidden fruit" Eve got Adam and herself permanently banned from the Garden of Eden.

With his slick tongue Satan in the form of a serpent, tempted Eve to go against God and follow her curiosity, a very human trait. And to make matters worse she led Adam into her disobedience of God's word (Genesis 3:6) and then compounds that disobedience by hiding and not taking responsibility for her duplicity in the eaten fruit (Genesis 3:13). Because of this God banned Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden and placed upon them hardships for their rebellion (Genesis 3:16-24).

The story of Eve is well known. But what lessons should we as women learn from our mother Eve?

Father (God) Knows Best

1. Eve was born with a slight disadvantage. She was born an adult. Eve did not grow into maturity; she was born into it but really had no experience in life. There are some things we learn in life by experience, with age and from others. Eve had none of those things. While she had a direct line to God, she failed to utilize that connection and created the first human rebellion against God. It was her "gimme, gimme, gimme" of the forbidden fruit that displays how immature Eve really was.

Lesson Learned: Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a

future.” We often display disobedience by not listening to the plans God’s has for us. The plans God had for Eve was not her focus. She decided to focus on what He said she couldn’t have and not on what she already had and because of this, **lost everything good and perfect God had for her and Adam.** What part of God’s plan for you are you not focused on and what will you lose by not focusing on His plans?

Do You Hear God Now?

2. The mind and ears caused the most problems for Eve. The mind because she was focused on what she couldn’t have which was the “forbidden fruit”. Her ears because she allowed the serpent question ***“He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” (Genesis 3:1) & his statement “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. (Genesis 3:4)*** to cause doubt in her mind. Now right here is where we have to pause and take a look at the word “certainly” because this is where Eve got confused to me. While the dictionaries have definitions for words, our own understanding of the definition contributes in our thinking process. To Eve “certainly” might have meant “instantly” but what God really meant was “eventually”. See God knew that He would have to ban them from the Garden of Eden if they partake of the Tree of Knowledge and outside the Garden was harsh living conditions that would take its toll on them. So He warned them of what would happen should they eat from the Tree of Knowledge. Too bad for them they did not heed God warning.

WANT MORE! BE MORE! GET UNITED IN CHRIST

Lesson Learned: John 8:47 “Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.” Do your ears hear what God is saying is saying to you? When your pastor preach do you understand when the word is for you or do you ignore God’s voice? As a prophet I know the sound of God’s voice no matter how I hear it. God voice can come as soft as a

bird's tweet or as loud as a roll of thunder. But the question is do you hear God's voice when He speaks to you?

Prayer Is Better Than Gorilla Glue For Those Cracks

3. If Eve had not been fixated on the Tree of Knowledge and pondering disobeying God, she certainly would have recognized satan for the evil he was then and still today. She might not have known evil but she would have known he was not of God and made a fast exit from his presence. But because her intent was to do evil her spirit was lined up with his and she know not the danger she was in. That old saying "Keep your friends close and your enemies closer" do not work in all situations and this was one of those times. If Eve had been about God's business, satan certainly would not have been able to influence Eve with the Tree of Knowledge.

Lesson Learn: 1 Peter 5:8"Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." serpents have no back bone so they can crawl into small cracks and cause damage. satan does not discriminate in his work. he cares not for the damage he will cause your life yet many let him roam unrestricted and cause problems in their life. Does satan have you on speed dial or is he blocked from your spirit? Are your cracks sealed with prayer? Are you wearing the "FULL ARMOR OF GOD?"

Ephesians 6:10-18

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

In God's Judgment We Get A Second Chance

The word "Judgment" often gives people the perception of an impending catastrophe. Yes Adam and Eve was banned from paradise, yes they eventually died, yes they had to work hard to toil the land and yes Eve had to give birth before the creation of epidural. I'm so not making my case and yet I am. Women (and some men) believe we are still paying for the sin of Eve and by extension Adam but we are not. We never lived in paradise so we do not know how good it was only what we image it would be. Ok we will die but my grandmother is still alive coming from a time when there was no television to watching television on an iPad. Companies like John Deere are certainly making it easy to toil the land. And thank God for creation of epidural because we know that idea had to come from heaven even if it was created on earth by man. God may have doled out a harsh Judgment for Adam and Eve but as time went on we got privileges. We got a full parole when Jesus died on the cross for us, erasing our sins and giving us a second chance of paradise and the bible tells us what we must do the make this happen.

Lesson Learned: Luke 23:43 Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." & Romans 10:9 -If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Sisters we are no longer living with the debt our mother Eve made when she gave into temptation and ate the "forbidden fruit". Jesus gave us a clean slate when He was nailed to the cross and took on the burden of all sin. But what are we going to do with this second chance? Are you going to hold

on the excuse of the “Sins of Eve” or are you going to be better than our mother? Are you going to live up to what God has planned for you or are you going to give up without even trying? Are you going to allow satan to reside in your spiritual or are you going to go into battle and defend what God is doing for your life? Yes Eve did wrong but Jesus freed us from her sin. We can no longer use her as an excuse. Any sin we commit now is of our own making and we have to own up to that or we are just keeping Eve mistake alive. How are you going to use your parole?

Eve may have been the down fall of man, but she was also the “first”. Eve was the first woman, first wife & first mother just to name a few. But as a mother should she gave us life lessons that we strongly need to learn. But the two lessons we need to learn is seeking redemption and forgiveness. God gives us the opportunity for both.

Ephesians 1:7-10

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace

⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,

⁹ he^[a] made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,

¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

WANT MORE! BE MORE! GET UNITED IN CHRIST

Amen, Amen & Amen

(All scriptures are NIV)