

SIN IS A REJECTION OF GOD

THE STORY: FALL

BIG TRUTH: SIN IS A REJECTION OF GOD

Genesis 6:5; Isaiah 44:9-20, 53:6; 2 Kings 17:15; Jeremiah 10:1-15

BIBLE VERSE: GENESIS 3:6

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

BIG IDEAS

- Sin leads us to doubt God's goodness.
- Sin leads us to believe the lie that God is not enough.
- Sin leads us to reject God's rule and reign.

BIBLE PASSAGE: GENESIS 3:1-7

God's creation was perfect and good until man's sin. When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, they disobeyed God's rule. They rejected Him and their relationship with Him. Man's sin separated him from God and introduced death into the world. Our relationships with God, ourselves, and one another are broken because of our sin.

THE STORY

The Story is the good news of the gospel. All of Scripture tells the Story of God the Father's work to redeem a people from the power of sin through God the Son so that they might live for His glory through the power of the Holy Spirit. During this series we will explore the four main movements of the Story of God, and our response to the life-altering Gospel Story!

BIG AIMS



Every student should know that:

- God is the author, subject, and hero of the gospel story
- Salvation comes by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone



Every student should feel:

- Brokenness over the depth of our sin against God
- Joy in Jesus, our Savior and King



Every student should strive to:

- Describe the gospel message through Creation, Fall, Redemption, and New Creation
- Memorize the Bible verse each week



Every student should want:

- To study the Bible so that they can better understand God's story of redemption
- To share the gospel story with those who are separated from God in their sin

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week's Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.

BIBLE VERSE: GENESIS 3:6

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

The first sin was a rejection of God as Father.

“She took of its fruit and ate, and she gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.”

- Adam and Eve had everything they would ever need in their home, the Garden of Eden. God had given them everything as their heavenly Father. Their home and life were perfect. God had established boundaries for their protection, allowing them to eat the fruit of any tree, except for one tree in the middle of the Garden of Eden. This one tree held the power to give Adam and Eve a knowledge of good and evil.
- It was for their good that God withheld this knowledge from them, but they rejected this. When they chose to eat the fruit of this tree, they were rejecting God as their Father and protector.

The first sin was a blatant disobedience of God’s Word.

“So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit...”

- When God created the heavens and earth, He established His order in the world. When He created man and woman, He gave order to their lives when He placed them in the Garden and gave them work and purpose. He also gave them guidelines when He set up boundaries for them.
- When Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the forbidden tree, they purposefully disobeyed God’s Word. They reject His rule and order and chose their own way instead.

The first sin was a desire for self-glory and not God’s glory.

“...and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise...”

- Satan convinced Adam and Eve that God was withholding something good from them. They believed the lie that they needed their own wisdom and that God’s provision and protection of them was not enough.

BIG IDEA: SIN LEADS US TO DOUBT GOD'S GOODNESS.¹**[THIS]**

Genesis 3 is our first introduction to Satan, the father of lies. He shows up as a serpent tempting Eve in the Garden of Eden. God gave Adam and Eve everything they needed to live in the Garden of Eden. They had companionship with one another and with Him. They had purpose in the work He had given them. God withheld no good thing from them. He established boundaries for them, allowing them to eat from every tree except one, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Satan's first lie attacked God's intentions toward Adam and Eve. Satan introduced doubt about the truth of God's Word. He introduced the idea that God's way was not best and that He did not have their best interest in mind when He established their boundaries. They believed Satan's lies. Our sin leads us to believe the same lie.

[THEREFORE]

Read Genesis 3:1. Consider how Satan placed doubt about God in Eve's mind. What are some common doubts we might have about God?

Doubt can creep into our hearts and minds about God. We can doubt His goodness and His provision. Psalm 31:19 shows us that God's goodness is abundant and in Psalms 84:11 we see that He does not withhold any good thing from His children. We can also doubt God's trustworthiness. In Psalm 9:10 we see that God does not fail and in Psalm 13:5 we are reminded that God's love is unending.

[THIS]

In Genesis 3:4, Satan continues leading Eve down a path of deception when He calls into question God's goodness and His boundaries. By questioning if death would really be the consequence of sin, he called into question God's goodness. God is good and He never changes. Because God is perfect, everything He does is good and perfect. His boundaries for Adam and Eve were good boundaries. We are led to disobey when we doubt God's goodness. We can look at the circumstances of our lives and question if God is really good. We will call into question if He has our best interest at heart and if He really loves us. This leads us to doubt God and to place our focus on ourselves instead of God.

[THEREFORE]

What are some of the effects of doubting God's goodness?

Psalm 20:7 shows us that it is a temptation to trust in earthly things instead of trusting in God. We trust in other things when we doubt God's goodness. Proverbs 28:26 shows us that it is a temptation to trust in ourselves and when we do, we are foolish. Proverbs 11:28 also shows us that we can trust in our riches, but all of these things fail in comparison to trusting in God. When we trust in something other than God, we are trusting in things that will fail us and lead to our destruction.

How can we protect ourselves from doubting God's goodness?

In Romans 15:13 we see that when we trust in God, we are filled with His joy and peace and this leads us to have hope. We grow in our trust of God as we grow in our knowledge of Him through our study of His Word. James 1:13-14 teaches us the value of recognizing the source of our temptation to doubt God and to sin against Him. It comes from our own sinfulness.

1. 1. Genesis 3:5: Satan convinced Adam and Eve that God was not good.

GUIDE 4

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BIG IDEA #2: SIN LEADS US TO BELIEVE THE LIE THAT GOD IS NOT ENOUGH.²

[THIS]

In Genesis 3:4-5, the idea that God is withholding something from man is introduced by Satan. In verse 5, Satan accuses God of keeping wisdom and position from Adam and Eve. He introduced the idea that they were lacking something. The idea that God's wisdom was not enough for them permeated the lie that Satan told to Eve. They believed the lie that they needed something more than what God had provided for them. Though they had a relationship with God, they believed it wasn't enough for them. They erroneously believed that they needed more than God to guide their lives. Because they believed the lie, they disobeyed God and altered their lives greatly.

[THEREFORE]

Read Genesis 3:6 and Rom 1:25. What leads us to believe the lie that God is not enough to meet the desires of our heart?

In Colossians 2:8 Paul warns that we can be drawn away from truth by focusing on philosophy and the foolish traditions of the world. This drawing away by the world happens when James 4:4 is true of us. 1 Corinthians 3:18-19 also warns us of our pride leading us to think we are wise when we are not. It is our sinfulness that leads us to believe we need more than just God to guide our lives.

What habits or disciplines can we establish to practice being satisfied in God alone?

In Psalm 90:14, we see the picture of a person waking in the morning seeking God and being satisfied by Him. When we establish the discipline of seeking God daily, we will find ourselves satisfied in Him because He satisfies. Psalm 107:9 tells us that God satisfies the soul that longs for Him. Psalm 16:6-11 gives us a picture of a life satisfied in God alone because of a daily seeking and desire for God.

[THIS]

When Adam and Eve believed the lie that knowing God wasn't enough, they acted in disobedience. By disobeying God's Word, they sought to be the god of their own lives instead of following the one true God. By disobeying, they said with their actions that God wasn't enough for them. Their disobedience said that God doesn't know enough, doesn't give enough, and isn't enough for them. When we seek to rule over our own lives, rejecting God's truth, we are saying that God isn't enough for us. We are living out the lie that God is lacking in some way and that we need more.

[THEREFORE]

What are some of the "other" things you look to replace God, or attempt to add to God in your daily life?

In 1 John 2:15-17, we see that the desires of our flesh can be something we seek in place of God or in addition to Him. We can often seek to please our hearts which will lead us to forsake God because our hearts are deceptive as Jeremiah 17:9 teaches us. In Matthew 6:24, Jesus teaches that we cannot serve two masters, implying that often we try to seek after earthly riches and serve God, too, but that is impossible.

2. 2. Genesis 3:6: *Eve believed that the forbidden fruit would make her wise and she chose her own wisdom over God's.*

BIG IDEA #3: SIN LEADS US TO REJECT GOD'S RULE AND REIGN.³**[THIS]**

In Genesis 3:6, Adam and Eve reject God as Lord of their lives. They turned away from Him and chose to believe Satan's lies instead. By disobeying God's Word, they revealed that they no longer trusted God's rule over their lives. They didn't trust His Word or submit to His plan. Instead, they chose their own way. When Satan called into question the consequence of death for their disobedience, they didn't trust God's Word. Instead, they rejected it and didn't believe what God said would happen would. God had established His rule over creation and their lives. Their disobedience revealed their rejection of it. Our disobedience to God's Word reveals our rejection of God's rule over our lives.

[THEREFORE]**What are some consequences of rejecting God's rule over our lives?**

Galatians 6:7-8 teaches us that we reap, or bear consequences of our actions. Paul presents the picture of someone sowing or planting seeds. If we seek to plant righteous seeds that honor God, then we reap righteousness. If we seek to plant earthly seeds, then we will reap the consequences of that. Proverbs 14:12 teaches us that when we follow our own plan it leads to destruction and Ezekiel 18:20 reminds us that sin does indeed kill the soul.

[THIS]

Adam and Eve rejected God's reign in their life when they sinned against Him. They turned away from Him and chose instead to reign over themselves. By choosing disobedience, they were seeking to be their own god. Their sin separated them from God, which meant they were no longer in His presence daily. They rejected His control over their lives because they believed a lie and they desired their own glory over God's. Our sin leads us to choose to be our own god instead of submitting to God's reign over us. We choose to use our own wisdom and to follow our own plans. All of these lead us to death and destruction and if we do not repent, could lead us to an eternity of death.

[THEREFORE]**Read Genesis 3:6-7. What does it mean to desire our own glory?**

When we seek our own glory, we are led to destruction and separation from God. Philippians 3:18-19 shows us the life that looks for its own glory over the life that seeks God's glory. When we desire our own glory, we make choices in life that satisfy us or bring us praise instead of bringing God praise and glory. John 12:48 teaches us that the one who rejects God and His Word has rejected His rule over them and will receive destruction.

How can we intentionally and practically choose to submit to God's rule and reign in everyday life?

In Psalm 119:105, the Psalmist says the word of God is a lamp to his feet and light to his path. When we establish the habit of looking to God's Word as our guide, we will establish the discipline of submitting to His rule and reign over our lives. Luke 11:28 teaches us that when we hear God's Word, we should obey it.

3. Genesis 3:4-6: Adam and Eve were enticed to disobey God in order to become wise themselves. By doing so, they rejected God's rule and reign over their lives.