

Week 2: TITLE: HOMESICK (THE FALL OT)

SERIES RECAP & INTRO

- This fall, we are looking at the Big Picture. We are asking: What is God's story, and where do I fit into it? To do this, we are studying the Bible in four parts: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration.
- These four parts are called the Biblical Metanarrative. They are like four acts of a play or a movie. Only this movie holds truths about you, me, humanity, and – most importantly – the God we are all made to know, love, and serve.
- Ultimately, God desires to be **“God with us.”** He had a plan, a blueprint for a home on Earth. Last week, we read how God built that **home** for Adam to dwell with Him. He wanted *His people in His place enjoying His presence*. **Today, we will continue Adam + Eve's story and see how their choices left all humanity HOMESICK.**

TRANSITION

- First, what comes to mind when you hear the phrase **“rotten to the core?”**
- Given the youth group demographic, I imagine responses will be either a.) the Disney Channel original movie, **Descendants “Rotten to the Core.”** or b.) the 2024 summer [dance trend](#) to Charlie XCX's song **“Apple.”**
- Each of these songs points to something inside all of us, in our parents, and in our families that's rotten. Honest reflection reveals that, despite all our efforts, the world – ourselves included – is not all good. There is selfishness and greed at the core of all humanity. But how did it get there? And why do even “good people” disappoint us?
- In Genesis 2, God made a home. But **something changed in Genesis 3**. Humans derailed the plan. What happened? Where did things go wrong?

HERE'S THE BIG IDEA: ADAM + EVE'S DECISION TO SIN SEPARATED HUMANITY FROM GOD'S PRESENCE.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- Let's see how our BIG IDEA unfolds in Genesis 3. We will read the story in six parts: **THE CON, THE CHOICE, THE CALL, THE CONSEQUENCES, THE CRUSH, + THE COVERING.** (*****NOTE***** *This break-down of Genesis 3 is heavily inspired and modeled after Tim Keller's teachings [Paradise in Crisis](#) and [Paradise Lost](#).)*

1 The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God **really** say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

2 "Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman replied.

3 "It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, 'You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.'"

4 "**You won't die!**" the serpent replied to the woman. 5 "God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil."

THE CON *The fall begins with a CON, a twisted truth from the serpent to Eve.*

- The snake mocks God's instructions. He makes Adam + Eve doubt that God said what he meant. (v.1)
- The snake lies to Eve. He says she will not die if she eats the fruit. (v.4)
- The snake does what he can to convince Adam + Eve that by obeying God they will miss out on fun, knowledge, + good. (v.5)
- The snake appeals to their pride and desire to boost their ego at any expense.
- *We fall into this same trap of doubting God's love, care, and grace today.*

6 The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and **she wanted the wisdom** it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. 7 At that moment their eyes were opened, and **they suddenly felt shame** at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

THE CHOICE *Eve + Adam each make a CHOICE to eat the fruit.*

- Adam + Eve each chose for themselves to eat the forbidden fruit, disobeying God's clear instructions. (v.6)
- Adam + Eve put themselves in the place of God. They permitted themselves to decide above God what is right v. wrong, good v. bad.
- *So much of what motivates us to sin is rooted in our desire to control our lives + our futures.*

8 When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking about in the garden. So **they hid from the Lord God** among the trees. 9 Then the Lord God called to the man, "**Where are you?**"

THE CALL *After Adam + Eve sin, they hide from God. Still, He CALLS after them.*

- **ADAM + EVE'S SIN SEPARATED HUMANITY FROM GOD'S PRESENCE. BUT WHEN WE HIDE, GOD SEEKS.** ([Tim Keller](#))
- *God sought after Adam + Eve, even when they ran away – just like we still do.*

→ After finding Adam and Eve, God disciplined them and the serpent. In Genesis 3:14-19, we see **THE CONSEQUENCES**. *Sin broke all of man's relationships.*

- ◆ **A Broken Relationship with God** – *While God walked in the Garden, seeking community, Adam + Eve hid. They ran from His presence, not toward it. (v.8) At the end of Genesis 3, Adam + Eve are banished from the Garden, (v.23)*
- ◆ **A Broken Relationship with Self** – *Adam + Eve realized their nakedness. Their view of themselves became warped. They covered up. (v.7)*
- ◆ **A Broken Relationship with Others** – *Adam + Eve blamed each other in front of God. They were willing to risk each other to justify themselves. Their relationship was now marked by comparison and competition, not love. (v.12-13).*
- ◆ **A Broken Relationship with Nature:** *The ground – beautiful and created by God – is cursed because of Adam's actions. It grows thorns and thistles. Adam is cursed to work the land tirelessly. (v. 17-19).*

GOSPEL + CLOSE

→ Even in these first pages of the Bible, when all seemed **lost and broken**, God's words + actions still pointed to the next acts in his story: **REDEMPTION and RESTORATION**.

<p>14 Then the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all animals, domestic and wild. You will crawl on your belly, groveling in the dust as long as you live. 15 And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."</p>	<p>THE CRUSH <i>Part of the serpent's punishment for deceiving Adam + Eve was the promise that the Son of Man would CRUSH his head.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Thankfully, for all humanity, there is a second Adam who stepped on the head of sin and death. → In doing so, he took the snake's deadly bite. On the third day, he rose again. → <i>We will discuss the REDEMPTION + RECONCILIATION Jesus's sacrifice brings more throughout this series. But know that this CRUSH is life-changing for all humanity, and it's mentioned right here – in the beginning.</i>
<p>20 Then the man—Adam—named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all who live. 21 And the Lord God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.</p> <p>23 So the Lord God banished them from</p>	<p>THE COVERING <i>After all is said and done, before banishing Adam + Eve from the Garden, God makes clothes for them to wear.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → God made clothes by hand to comfort and protect Adam + Eve in the cruel world they now inherited.

the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made.

→ Despite their stubbornness and sin, God covered them. Later, Christ's blood would provide the ultimate covering for our sins.

→ **ADAM + EVE'S DECISION TO SIN SEPARATED HUMANITY FROM GOD'S PRESENCE. STILL, WHEN WE HIDE, GOD SEEKS.**

→ **THE STORY IS NOT OVER.**

[Leader note: you can add this section anywhere you see fit in the message and word it how you'd like.] Each week of this series, we're exploring more of the Big Picture of God's story and how he is calling us home. It's like we're putting together a big puzzle. The little pieces by themselves might not make much sense, but as you put the pieces together, the big picture starts to become clear. So each week we're going to add some pieces to our puzzle to see what God has in store for us. Here's how we left our puzzle last week. [Show first image below]. Let's add a couple pieces from week 2! [Show image two below]

Image #1



Image #2



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Do you believe people are naturally inclined for good or evil? Why do you think so?
- Has your atmosphere or people in your social circles ever led you to doubt your beliefs or faith in God and his goodness? How?
- What does it mean to you that God made the clothes for Adam + Eve? In what ways has God covered you?