

New Life Christian Fellowship

# Homework Packet

Week Three- The Fall of Man

Genesis 3

Dates- January 22-28 , 2012

In this packet: Sermon Outlines for adults, youth and children; Homework suggestions, lyrics for worship

# Journeying Together...As the People of God

## New Life Christian Fellowship

January 22, 2012

The Fall

**Text for today: Genesis 3- Provided in video form with a dramatic reading from "The Art of Marriage" Session 2. In the space provided, write one word responses to what you see and hear.**

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**Main Point Number 1- Because of Adam and Eve's sin in the garden, we are all born with a sinful nature.**

**Passages that support this include:**

**Definitions of sin- In your own words, how would you define sin?**

**Pastor Mark will offer several definitions of sin and illustrate them:**

**Sin is disobedience in attitude or deed against the call and command of God.**

**Sin literally means "to miss the mark." It is an archery term.**

**Main Point 2- Eve was tempted by a serpent. All of us face temptation every day.**

**Questions to consider: Is temptation sin? Look at Luke 4:1-13**

**Does God ever bring temptation into our lives? Look at James 1:13; Acts 17:11**

**Did Eve have to sin? Look at 1 Corinthian 10:13**

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**Main Point 3- Sin does not disqualify us from God's love.**

**How was God's love still apparent after Adam and Eve sinned?**

**What passage following the Fall would indicate God's continued love? Look at Genesis 3:21.**

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**Major Point 4- Sin often leads to blameshifting**

**Genesis 3:8-13**

**Who did the man blame?**

**Who did the woman blame?**

**Do you have a tendency to blame others for your sin?**

**Main Point 5– Sin leads to consequences. Life is harder because sin is now a part of the world.**

**Look at the consequences from Genesis 3:14-24.**

**To the serpent vs. 14-15**

**To the woman vs. 16**

**To the man vs. 17-19**

**Cast out of the Garden vs. 24**

**Write down the three S words that describe the consequences of sin:**

**S** \_\_\_\_\_

**S** \_\_\_\_\_

**S** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Things for Thought and Discussion this week:**

**“The Fall is simply and solely Disobedience — doing what you have been told not to do: and it results from Pride — from being too big for your boots, forgetting your place, thinking that you are God.” ~C.S. Lewis**

For centuries, the Catholic church taught that there were three types of sin: Venial, mortal and original.....

A venial (forgivable) sin meets at least one of the following criteria:

It does not concern a "grave matter",

It is not committed with full knowledge, or

It is not committed with both deliberate and complete consent.

This means that the sin can be committed accidentally, or without intent to sin.

In order for a sin to be mortal, it must meet three conditions:

Mortal sin is a sin of grave matter

Mortal sin is committed with full knowledge of the sinner

Mortal sin is committed with deliberate consent of the sinner

This means that mortal sins cannot be done "accidentally." A person who commits a mortal sin is one who knows that their sin is wrong, but still deliberately commits the sin anyway. This means that mortal sins are "premeditated" by the sinner and thus are truly a rejection of God's law and love.

Original sin is what humans inherit from Adam and Eve.

**Other words for sin: transgression, iniquity, wickedness,**

# Sermon Notes Page for Children

## New Life Christian Fellowship

Today's Date: January 22, 2012

Today's Scripture Passage: Genesis 3

Stops Along the Journey:

### 1. Definitions of sin:

A. Sin is \_\_\_\_\_ in attitude or deed against the call and command of God.

B. Sin literally means "to miss the \_\_\_\_\_." It is an archery term.

2. Eve was tempted by a \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Sin does not disqualify us from God's \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Sin often leads to \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Sin leads to consequences. Life is \_\_\_\_\_ because sin is now a part of the world.

**Extra Credit:**

**Write down the three curses that are a result of sin:**

**For the serpent- (verses 14-15)**

**For the woman- (verse 16)**

**For the man- (verses 17-19)**

Questions to ask my mom and dad about:

### **Love the Lord by Lincoln Brewster**

Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength

With all your heart, with all your soul,  
with all your mind, and with all your strength  
love the Lord your God, with all your heart  
with all your soul, with all your mind  
and with all your strength

I will serve the Lord with all my heart,  
with all my soul, with all my mind,  
and with all my strength

I will love You,  
I will praise You,  
I will serve You,  
I will trust You.

### **Blessed Be Your Name by Matt Redman**

Blessed be Your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be Your name  
And blessed be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be your name

Every blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise  
And when the darkness closes in, Lord  
Still I will say  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's "all as it should be"  
Blessed be Your name  
And blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be Your name

You give and take away  
You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord, blessed be Your name  
I will bless Your name

### **Open the Eyes of My Heart by Paul Baloche**

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You  
I want to see You

To see you high and lifted up  
Shining in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy

### **Trust and Obey**

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His  
Word. What a glory He sheds on our way!  
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,  
And with all who will trust and obey.

Trust and obey, for there's no other way  
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,  
But His smile quickly drives it away;  
Not a doubt or a fear, not a sigh or a tear,  
Can abide while we trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,  
But our toil He doth richly repay;  
Not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,  
But is blessed if we trust and obey.

But we never can prove the delights of His love  
Until all on the altar we lay;  
For the favor He shows, for the joy He bestows,  
Are for them who will trust and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet.  
Or we'll walk by His side in the way.  
What He says we will do, where He sends we will  
go; Never fear, only trust and obey.

Jan 22, 2012 Parent Letter

This week we are looking at what Christianity has labeled as “the fall”. Humans went from perfection in the Garden of Eden, in relationships with God, in relationships with each other, in health, etc, to living in a sin-cursed world in which there was now discord, fear, stealth, shame and more. As you teach your children this week, I encourage you to consider using some or all of these activities to reinforce the lessons from Genesis 3 this morning:

1. Take time to imagine together what Eden – true paradise – would have been like. This is a good activity to do with your child as you are tucking them in at night. Just lay on the bed together and brainstorm together what the Garden of Eden would have been like before “the fall”- no sickness, eating only fruits and veggies, no death, no animals killing other animals, etc. With older kids- compare and contrast Eden with heaven. You may need to look together at Revelation 21:1-8 and Revelation 22: 1-5
2. Make a bullseye target together and list “perfection” in center. On a separate sheet of paper list all the sins your child can think of- “small” (ex: using mean words) or “big” (example: murder) Go back and put them in order on the bullseye with worst sins on outer edge and “minor” sins on inner edges. Then discuss that to God, all sin is sin. Adam and Eve’s sin probably would have landed on our bullseye as a more minor sin- disobeying, but all sin separates us from God and we need to ask God to forgive us for ALL our sins.
3. Bible verse temple worksheet (attached). Look up the verses together and write them on the sheet of paper. Keep this worksheet as it goes along with another Bible verse worksheet we will be handing out next week. Both of these in combination are a great way to explain to your child his or her need for salvation and to help them know how to ask God for salvation.
4. With your preschoolers, if you have a children’s Bible, read the Adam and Eve story with them this week. If you do not have a good children’s Bible, there are MANY available at Family Christian, Lifeway, or online. My current favorite for preschool kids is the Read With Me Bible illustrated by Dennis Jones. Our boys were each given one for Christmas and as we have started reading them, I have realized this particular Bible has MANY of the stories we will be covering as a church this year.
5. Write verses out for Psalm 8. Cut out so each verse is on one strip of paper. Scramble them and put them in order again. When that becomes too easy, cut each verse in half so you can unscramble even more of the passage.

May God bless you as you disciple your children this week!

Tina

# HOW TO USE THIS STUDY GUIDE

There's a lot of material here. Going through all of it in the course of one week might seem impossible, but it's not meant to be discouraging. This was designed in way to allow you to take the pieces you can implement and make them a part of your family's devotional life this week. Here are some tips based on how this was written that might help you do just that.

1. Monday, Wednesday, Friday: These days are weighted with more content. An every other day approach to formal family discipleship can often be more accessible than an every day grind. For that reason, these days have been given the central bits of teaching to the week's passage while Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday have been given more supplemental materials.
2. Formal vs. Informal suggestions: You'll notice there are some sections that are labeled FORMAL and INFORMAL throughout the week. The FORMAL heading denotes times of teaching where the family might gather to read scripture, ask questions, pray, and reflect on what they read. These times will often be the most successful if they are given a specific time in the day or the week when the family commits to coming together for the express purpose of study. The INFORMAL heading is for things that are better suited to being made part of daily life. They can happen "along the road," so to speak, and can be built into the fabric of everyday life.

PLEASE NOTE: Especially for teens, the INFORMAL times of teaching are often far more important. These are the pieces that have a way of becoming the fabric of faith in the life of your family. If you can only do one of the two types of study I would suggest that you make it a point to focus on the INFORMAL opportunities for teaching. Experience and research have shown that these are the sorts of things that are more likely to develop a lasting faith in a person's life (For more on this visit [www.stickyfaith.org](http://www.stickyfaith.org) and check out their resources for parents on developing a faith that sticks).

3. Suggested activities: Students often benefit most from experiential learning. These suggested activities are meant to be ways to engage more tactile senses and the imagination as a way to internalize the teaching for the week. While it might be difficult to do them all, I would recommend picking at least one for your family to do together during a week.
4. We are Christians reading the Old Testament and as such we need to read these passages through Jesus. There are questions throughout to help you do this, but you can also help your family by simply asking, "How does this passage point us to Jesus?"

## **Week 3: The man, the woman, and sin.**

**Monday:** And the snake was more crafty...

FORMAL

Read: Genesis 3:1-6

1. Based on the reading for today, what is the setting for this story? Who is present during the account? Where are the people involved in relationship to one another (where is Eve? Where is Adam? Where is the tree? Where is the snake?)? Have each person describe (or draw) what they see when the story is read.
2. How does the snake approach the subject of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of Good and Evil with Eve? What do you learn about the nature of temptation in your own life? How does Eve respond to the snake? How does Adam respond?
3. What is one area of your own life where you are especially tempted to sin? Do you typically respond well to the temptation or do you respond more like Eve and Adam? List some ways that you can respond more faithfully in the face of temptation.

*Possible Activity: Get paper lunch bags and make hand puppets to act out the story (Yes teens still enjoy this sort of thing). Take turns playing the different roles and use it as an opportunity to ask one another how you could have responded differently if you were Eve. If you want to get really crazy buy a pack of paper Lawn and Leaf bags and use them to make giant puppets. It will help everyone remember the stories and believe me, it will be a riot of a good time.*

INFORMAL

Do you know the areas where your teen is most tempted to follow after his or her own desires and not after God's desire for their life? As you go through the week look for ways to encourage them when they have victory over temptation, be it big or small. Getting to know your teens' area of weakness and temptation can be difficult because we are so conditioned to hide our places of vulnerability before others, especially our parents, but don't let that discourage you. Consider what areas of your life were great areas of temptation when you were their age. Are there situations where your teen is more vulnerable to temptation? How can you help them avoid these situations while still teaching them how to make their own decisions in these sorts of matters?

**Tuesday:** The Temptation and Jesus

## FORMAL

Read: Genesis 3:1-6; Luke 4:1-13

1. Compare these two accounts. How are the techniques used for each temptation similar? How are they different? Where Adam and Eve fail to rebuke the snake, Jesus is able to withstand the devil's advances, what did Jesus do that Eve and Adam did not do? What does that teach us about facing temptation?
2. Think again about the areas where you are most tempted to sin. Are there any Bible verses that you can remember that will help you remain faithful in the face of temptation. *Take these verses and put them on cards around your room or your house to help you memorize them. When temptation arises, recall the verses.*

## INFORMAL

Telling your faith story often and in many different ways is one of the best things you can do to help raise your teen in God's ways. Don't be afraid to share about the times you overcame temptation as well as the times when you failed and the consequences of sin afterward. By sharing your story you help them see how God has worked in your own life, how temptations take different forms for different people, and you also help them know that they have parents who have faced (and sometimes failed) temptation in your own life.

**Wednesday:** The results of sin and disobedience

## FORMAL

Read: Genesis 3:1-13

1. What happens immediately after Adam and Eve taste the fruit? How are things different now then what we see in Genesis 2?
2. How are the relationships in this passage affected by sin? How are your relationships affected when someone sins? Have you ever hid from the person you've sinned against? What happened when they found you?
3. Are you currently fighting with someone against whom you have sinned? If so, how can you go and reconcile that relationship? How would you mend the sin that caused the separation?

## INFORMAL

Sin introduces shame and barriers to relationship. People tend to hide and blame shift in the midst of accusations. The temptation for the person who has been sinned against is to jump strait to punishment and to set the record straight. One of the ways that you can teach your

teens about the devastating effects of sin is to first begin with the relationship aspect of the transgression. What has the sin done to cause damage to the relationship. Similarly, respond in ways that reconcile the relationship first. This does not mean punishment won't follow, but just as God sought out his children in the garden and gave them the chance to confess their sins, you can start with the relationship and allow the punishment to exist within the context of a loving, caring relationship.

**Thursday:** Reconciling Relationships Damaged by Sin

FORMAL

Read: Genesis 3:7-13; Matthew 12:46-50; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

1. The relationships in Genesis 3 are all damaged by sin. Humanity to God, humanity to one another, and even humanity to creation are all hurt when Adam and Eve disobey God. How do relationships change according to Jesus and Paul because of what Jesus has done?
2. What makes it so difficult to repair broken relationships in your life today? What steps can you take to be a person who lives to put relationships back together? How does Jesus make real reconciliation possible?

INFORMAL

The culture in which teens live every day (especially at school) is a culture that glorifies separation, retaliation, and getting the last word. Social enemies are more real in the life of teens than they are at many other ages of life. This division is borne out of the separation that occurred in the garden and it is easy for teens to feel like they have to get caught up in that culture to survive. To help teach our teens to be reconcilers instead of retaliators, we must first model reconciliation in our relationships, and then make sure that we are giving them wise counsel as to how to be Christ-like and loving while they walk the halls of school and move forward into adulthood.

**Friday:** God Responds to the snake, Eve, and Adam: The Consequences of Sin

FORMAL

Read: Genesis 3:1-24

1. Make a chart listing God's response to each party and how sin will now impact their lives going forward. How are these lists different? What is similar about the way their lives change?
2. [Background Bite] Eden was understood to be a place where Adam and Eve had everything they needed to sustain and nourish their lives, as well as the place where they were able to walk freely with God. By being driven out of the garden, what was the ultimate outcome of Adam and Eve's sin?

3. Where do you see these consequences still playing themselves out in people's lives today? Where do you see God showing mercy on Adam and Eve in this passage, and where do you see hope that these consequences might be overcome some day?

*Possible Activity: As a family, draw pictures to represent the consequences of sin in Genesis 3. Hang these pictures around the house and talk about how they can remind you of how sin tries to destroy everything. When anyone in the family sees the consequences of sin at work, have them point it out and identify which drawing represents what is going on.*

#### INFORMAL

Learning about the consequences of our choices, both good and bad, is part of growing up to be a healthy and mature adult, and even more so a healthy and mature Christian. This week, look for ways where you can challenge your teens to think about the possible ramifications of their decisions rather than simply giving them the quick answer, solving the problem for them. Encourage them when they make wise decisions. When they make poor decisions that might hurt themselves or others, review how they could have chosen better, and be willing to forgive and show mercy.

#### **Saturday:** Transcending the Results

#### FORMAL

Read: Genesis 3; Romans 5:12-21

1. Review the results of sin from Genesis 3. According to Romans 5:12-21, how does Jesus overcome the consequences of sin? How does it change the way you live your life to read about the impact Jesus has had on the effects of Adam's sin?
2. Jesus addresses the central issues of Genesis 3 by providing everything we need for the day, and by reestablishing our relationship with God forever. (*Ask your teens*) What areas of your life need to be turned over to Jesus' work so that the impact of sin and its destructiveness can be overcome? What would it look like in your life, if Jesus's victory totally removed sin from your everyday?

#### INFORMAL

Begin to look for areas in your teens' life where Jesus' victory has taken hold. Encourage them where they have persevered through a difficult challenge in order to live faithfully. Be aware of their struggles and remind them that they are not chained to the sins of the past, theirs or Adam's. This must be a long-term project, and often teens will appear to tune you out and chide you for your efforts, but it has an impact. Offering teens an environment where sin is not tolerated, but forgiveness can also be found will help them to understand the gap between Adam and Jesus.