

Genesis: The Book That Started It All

Group Guide | September 21

Open with prayer and briefly summarize Genesis 3 (15 minutes).

Begin your time together as a group with a word of prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you grow to look, love, and live more like Christ.

Briefly summarize Genesis 3 (or read key verses aloud). Highlight the key moments: God's command (Genesis 2:16-17), the serpent's temptation (3:1-5), Adam and Eve's sin (3:6-7), the consequences (3:8-19), and God's grace (3:15, 21).

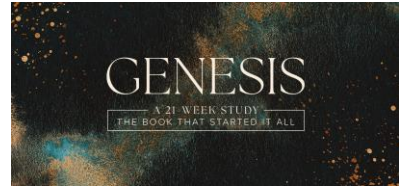
Read Genesis 3 (5 minutes).

Assign group members to read the following verses aloud:

- Genesis 3:1-6 (temptation and the fall)
- Genesis 3:8-13 (consequences and hiding from God)
- Genesis 3:15, 21 (God's promise and provision)

As a group, reflect on these questions (35 minutes).

- What stood out to or challenged you from Dan's sermon on Sunday?
- In Genesis 3:1-5, the serpent twists God's words and appeals to Eve's desires. What are some ways you see temptation at work in your life today? How does the enemy's "disorienting whisper," as Dan called it, distort truth to make sin appealing?
 - Follow-up: How can we discern God's truth from the world's lies?
- In Satan's temptation of Eve, Dan noted how Satan did three things: (1) Added to God's Word; (2) Satan took away from God's Word; and (3) Satan distorted the heart of God's Word. What might the addition, subtraction, and distortion of God's Word look like when it comes to your own sin struggles?
 - Follow-up: Read Matthew 4:1-11. How does Jesus' engagement with God's Word provide a roadmap for how to fight temptation in our lives?
- Satan wasn't the sole reason Eve ate the fruit. One reason why Eve partook of the fruit was because she "saw" it, saw that it was "pleasing to the eye," "took" it, and "ate" it. Dan



described this as sin's "powerful draw." How have you felt the draw of sin in your life before? Where are you feeling its draw in your life today?

- After eating the fruit, the consequences of sin made Adam and Eve feel shame and hide from God (Genesis 3:7-10), it impacted their work, it impacted their childbearing, and more. Dan described this as sin's "encompassing brokenness." How have you seen sin create distance or shame in your relationship with God or others?
 - Follow-up: Why do you think we often try to hide or blame others (like Adam and Eve did in 3:12-13) instead of confessing our sin?
- Despite the reality of sin, the good news of the gospel is, as Dan mentioned, that God pursues us in our sin and God provides a solution for sin. How does the truth of the gospel propel you in your fight against sin and temptation?

Spend a few minutes in prayer (5 minutes).

In same-gendered groups of 2-3, take a few moments to have each person share a sin area or struggle that they need help in. Pray for those requests.

Come together as a large group for prayer requests and prayer (5 minutes).

As you end your group time, share your prayer requests. Have someone record them and send them out to everyone. Then, finish by having someone pray over your group.