

Listen or watch the sermon on the website if you missed it. Turn to the back for an outline of the sermon.

This week's reading in the 2015/16 reading plan includes: Genesis 19-25 & Matthew 18-24

Ice Breaker: Describe a time when not trusting the instruction of someone you should have trusted hurt you.

1. Discuss anything that jumped out at you in your private devotions this week.
2. Together, read Gen 3:1-6. In what ways do we see Satan deceiving Eve?
 1. How do we see him still doing this today in our culture?
 2. In what areas or in what manner do you find your fallen nature tending to "buy the lie" or maybe just go along with what is easier or seems "only a little bit wrong"?
 3. Read Gen 2:16-18. Who did God leave responsible to ensure that Eve understood God's command clearly?
 1. Who failed first in this scenario?
3. Together read verses 7-13. Describe in your own words what happened in the way Adam and Eve saw themselves and God once they sinned.
 1. What impact do you notice sin has in your own life?
4. Together read verses 14-19. Describe in your own words the curse God put upon the serpent, mankind, and the earth.
 1. How is your daily life affected by this curse?
 2. Do you see good news in the curse? If so, what is it?
 3. What are some ways that you see death coming into the world through sin? Is there other Scripture that speaks about this?
5. Together read verses 20-24. In what ways does God graciously provide for Adam and Eve in these verses?
 1. What is the significance of the skin coverings?
 2. What journey or course did the Lord set mankind upon when he drove them out of the garden? Consider the whole storyline of the bible. Read Romans 5:12-21; Revelation 21:1-7 and 21:22 through 22:5.
 3. How do we fit into this story and what are we to do in light of this message from God's word?

Sermon Idea: “The hope of the atonement triumphs over the tragedy of the Fall.”

I. Satan schemes to keep us opposing God. (vv 1-6)

- A. The serpent deceived Eve with lies about God’s words. (vv 1-3)
- B. The serpent deceived Eve with lies about God’s character. (vv 4-5)
- C. Adam willfully rebelled against God and followed his wife. (vv 6)
- D. We face the same strategies by the devil to disrupt our victory in Christ.

II. God always deals with our sin. (vv 7-13)

- A. Adam and Eve’s actions brought them knowledge of good and evil, but with the pain of guilt. (vv 7-8)
- B. The Fall alienated them from God. (vv 9-10)
- C. The Fall caused isolation in their relationship with each other. (vv 11-13)
- D. When God confronts our disobedience He expresses His love.

III. God gives us grace even in our condemnation. (vv 14-19)

- A. The Fall brought devastating consequences. (vv 14, 16-19)
- B. Even as God imposed sin’s sentence, His mercy appeared. (v 15)
- C. We are never out of the reach of God’s grace.

IV. God provides us the covering for the guilt that we bear. (vv 20-24)

- A. God made a sacrifice from innocent blood to cover Adam and Eve’s shame. (v 21)
- B. God banished them from the garden in an act of grace. (vv 22-24)