

## TALK IT OVER

Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What are some crazy things you've done to get the perfect photo?
- Describe your perfect day-long date.

Read Genesis 3 (Passage is on 2nd page. This is from The New Living version. Feel free to use or read from your own Bible/app. Be careful navigating parts of this passage. Man ruling over woman is a result of the fall. It entered into existence because of sin. It is not God's original design. A Godly marriage is based on mutual submission Ephesians 5:21). Once you've read the passage ask these questions:

- What new thing did you discover in the story that you did not know before?
- What did you learn about God? (Why would God give them the choice? Why would God ask Adam and Eve those questions?)
- What did you learn about people? (How can people be married but not united? How can you tell when a couple is unified in mission and "walking together"?)
- What will you take away from this discussion? (What are things you love? What are your passions? How could those become part of your mission? What is something that has been divisive for you in your marriage? If you're single, where have you been distracted?)
- What will you do with what you have learned? (If you're in a relationship, how are you already mission-driven? How could you be more unified? If you're single, how can you pursue the mission God has given you in the coming week?) If you haven't already make the commitment to join What's Next to figure out your mission and for your students to join 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift! Don't attend...commit. Make it part of your lifestyle...a priority.
- Is there anything else you wanted to share that we didn't hit in this discussion?
- Next week make sure to read Ephesians 6. Pay special attention to verses 11-12. Think through the questions we ask weekly as you read.

Make sure to check in with your SG this week. How can you pray for them? This is where the discipleship aspect comes in. Work towards identifying your 3 (that you can really pour into) and then your 1 (that person that will replicate what you're doing now). Take a few minutes each day and make a text or phone call to everyone in the group.

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Make sure to read ahead of time and either retell the story or have someone (multiple people) help you retelling the story. Make sure to use your update with points from Joe's sermon.

Genesis 3

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?"

<sup>2</sup> "Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman replied. <sup>3</sup> "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.'"

<sup>4</sup> "You won't die!" the serpent replied to the woman. <sup>5</sup> "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."

<sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

<sup>8</sup> When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man<sup>[a]</sup> and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees. <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

<sup>10</sup> He replied, "I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked."

<sup>11</sup> "Who told you that you were naked?" the LORD God asked. "Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?"

<sup>12</sup> The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it."

<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God asked the woman, "What have you done?"

"The serpent deceived me," she replied. "That's why I ate it."

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike<sup>[b]</sup> your head, and you will strike his heel."

<sup>16</sup> Then he said to the woman,

"I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy, and in pain you will give birth. And you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you.<sup>[c]</sup>"

<sup>17</sup> And to the man he said,

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“Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, the ground is cursed because of you.

All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it.

<sup>18</sup> It will grow thorns and thistles for you,

though you will eat of its grains.

<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made.

For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return.”

### **Paradise Lost: God’s Judgment**

<sup>20</sup> Then the man—Adam—named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all who live.<sup>[d]</sup> <sup>21</sup> And the LORD God

made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.

<sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God said, “Look, the human beings<sup>[e]</sup> have become like us, knowing both good and evil. What if they reach out, take fruit from the tree of life, and eat it? Then they will live forever!” <sup>23</sup> So the LORD God banished them from the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made. <sup>24</sup> After sending them out, the LORD God stationed mighty cherubim to the east of the Garden of Eden. And he placed a flaming sword that flashed back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.