

Adam and Eve and Our Relationships
Genesis 1-7 and Ephesians 6:10-17

I. Examine our beginning 1:26-28

1. We were created to *reflect* God's image.
2. We were created to *rule* over God's creation.

II. Examine Adam's sin & our total corruption 3:1-24

1. Before the fall of Adam, man was sinless, but able to sin 2:17
2. After Adam's sin, we are all unable not to sin 5:3, 6:5
Romans 3:9-18
3. When we are born again we are able to not sin 6:8-12

III. Examine what Adam's sin means for our relationships

1. We at times lead others away from God Verse 6
2. We rebel against authority Verse 6
3. We seek to make our own creeds Verse 7
4. We avoid responsibility Verse 8
5. We hide Verse 8
6. We live in fear Verse 10
7. We blame and justify Verse 12
8. We listen to other's voices over God's voice Verse 17
9. We live under the curse and death Verses 16-19
10. Our desires often rule over us Verse 16
11. Deception is a constant enemy Verses 16-17
12. We are hopeless without God 2:15-17

IV. How to deal with these sinful traits

1. Ask for true repentance
2. Deal with the root causes

Questions for this week:

I. For Starters:

1. What bad trait most bothers you and why? (lying, stealing, laziness, etc)
2. What good characteristic do you most want to develop in your life right now?

II. Overview of Scripture

1. Read Genesis 3 out loud. What stands out to you?
2. Read Psalm 8:3-6. What value or importance do we have in God's eyes according to this section of Scripture?

III. Growing deeper

1. Review Sunday's message with someone.
2. In the book *Lies Women Believe* the author points to some common lies we can believe that can really destroy our peace. Read below and see if any are affecting you or someone you love.
 - I have a right to be happy in my relationships
 - I have a right to be understood
 - I have a right to be loved
 - I have a right to a certain standard of living, to a good wage, and to decent benefits (*and a good retirement*).
 - I have a right to be treated with respect in the workplace.
 - I have a right to be treated fairly
3. What tends to happen to people who live by their desires and self-will and not God's ways and commandments? (James 4:1-3)
4. What are the answers to living enslaved to our desires? (James 4:4-10).
5. Pray for one another that your relationships would explain Christ and the Gospel.