

SIN IN THE GARDEN

Gen 2:16-17, 3:1-9

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. WHERE DOES SIN COME FROM?
2. WHAT IS SIN?
3. WHAT DOES SIN DO?
4. WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT SIN?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. Sin is not a popular topic. What comes to your mind when you hear that we are starting a sermon series on sin? What questions do you have about sin?
3. We are spending the next 10 weeks on the topic of sin because without an understanding of sin you are set up for failure in this life. You won't understand yourself, the world around you or the grace of God. How does growing in our understanding of sin help us understand these three topics more?
4. Read Acts 2:37-42 as a group. Have you ever been "pierced to the heart" by your own sin like these people were? In other words, have you ever experienced the weight of your sin in a deeply personal way? What was that like? Were there any passages in scripture, conversations or experiences that led you to this new understanding of your sin?
5. In Genesis 2 & 3 we see that sin came from the belief that God is not good, you can't trust Him and He doesn't love you. What evidence do you have that makes you doubt God's goodness and love? What evidence do you have that makes you sure of God's goodness and love?
6. We all experience shame the same way Adam and Eve did in Genesis 3. We live with the deep awareness that we wouldn't stand up under scrutiny. Because of this we are terrified for people to see us as we really are and we mimic Adam and Eve by creating our own version of "fig leaves" to hide ourselves. What are your fig leaves? What activities, attitudes, and actions do you try to hide behind?
7. Sin destroys relationships. It destroys our relationships with God, other people and ourselves. Can you think of an example for each of these areas of broken relationships that we see in the Bible? What about an example for each from your own life? How does the cross of Jesus Christ bring healing to all three of these relationships?

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: Jesus bore the unmatched shame of the cross as a demonstration that God does, in fact, love you.