

# There's a Snake in the Garden

## Genesis 1-3

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### Getting Started

Take a moment to answer some of the following questions.

- What was the last item you owned that you could not restore?
- If you have children, think of time when they "reflected" you.
- Who is a person that God has used to reflect His character to you?

### Digging Deeper

Looking back at this weeks teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged you?

Read [Genesis 1:26](#)

What do you think it means to be created in God's image?

In what ways do we, as believers, reflect God's image to the world?

#### 1. Satan Attacks our Freedom

Read [Genesis 3:1-3](#)

- How or why do we get into discussions with the devil?

Genesis 3:1 oozes with innuendo.

- What is Satan implying when he says, "Did God really say...?"
- How does Eve's answer misrepresent God's command and character (vv. 2-3/Genesis 2:16,17)?

[Galatians 5:1](#) says: "For freedom Christ has set us free. . ."

- What freedoms do we have in Christ Jesus?
- Why do we so often focus on the negative or the restrictions instead of the positive or the freedom? How can we change?

#### 2. Satan Attacks our Contentment

Read [Genesis 3:4-8](#)

- The serpent now becomes more direct. What statements does he make about the purpose and results of the command? (vv. 4,5)
- How have the serpent's words distorted Eve's thinking (v.6)?

What do you think of the following statement that Jilane made on Sunday:

*"God gives us the right to reject His love, and the right to turn off his grace, refuse his mercy, and to go our own stubborn way. It is the greatest dignity He gives to us. God is a God of love and love never coerces or forces someone to love in return. In order for a love relationship to be possible, Eve had to have the ability to choose."*

- When is discontent positive, and when is it an attack of Satan?
- In what situations do you find it hard to trust God and to trust in His plan for your life?

### 3. Satan Attacks our Relationships

Read [Genesis 3:7-13](#)

How did Adam and Eve's sin immediately affect their attitude toward themselves, each other and God?

In **verse 12** Adam accuses both Eve and God. Satan accuses ([Revelation 12:10](#)) and God Defends ([Psalm 18:1](#)).

- How does accusation slip into our relationships, and what kind of damage does it do?
- We reflect the image of God when we defend. With who and in what ways do you need to defend?

God defended Adam and Eve when he covered them with animal skin (a blood sacrifice).

Imagine how Adam and Eve must have felt when they saw one of "their" animals die because of their decision. I imagine it would've invoked in them a true understanding of how serious God takes sin. How can we take our sin more seriously?

Read [1 John 2:1](#) and [John 3:16](#)--How is Jesus our ultimate defender?

#### Personal Reflection and Application

Adam and Eve made several mistakes: they listened to a creature instead of the Creator, followed their own impressions against God's instructions, doubted his concern for their best interests and made self-fulfillment their goal. In what situations have any of these led you to disobey a command of God?

What one lesson have you learned from Genesis 3 that can help you recognize and resist an attack of Satan or temptation you are facing?

#### Responding in Prayer

[Romans 5:12](#) and [15](#) tell us that in the same way that sin entered the world through one person, it is redeemed by one person, our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank him for his love that erased our first sin in the garden and gave his wonderful grace.

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