



Brokenness Spreads

OPENING

- What recent examples in the news illustrate the devastating impact of one person's sin?

READ GENESIS 4:1-16

- Why did Cain kill his brother Abel? Was it justified? Is killing another human being ever justified?
- How did the Lord approach Cain? What is similar to how God approached Adam when he sinned?
- How did Cain respond to the Lord? How did Cain sin in his response to the Lord?
- What was Cain's consequence? Why do you think God let Cain live?

READ GENESIS 6:5-7

- To what extent did the brokenness spread across the human race?
- How did the Lord feel about the human race?
- What was He planning to do? Was God justified?

For further study: Read Genesis 5 on your own. What surprises you from this list? Why do you think this list is important for us to better understand our origins?

MAKING IT REAL

- The story of Cain and Abel exposes the relational nature of sin, man to man and man to God. How does that compare with your current posture regarding sin?
- Cain tried to hide his sin. Why do we try to hide or minimize sin? How do you do this? How does this behavior impact relationships?

"Since the fall of man, we have constantly turned our back on God's intentions for creation."

-Barry Rodriguez

PRAY

Take an extended time of silence, then slowly reading one statement at a time. Allow time for the Holy Spirit to help you finish each sentence:

God...

- *I have a hard time surrendering to you...*
- *I have a hard time trusting you with...*
- *Show me a face of someone I avoid...*
- *Show me a face of someone I have mistreated...*

Read 1 John 1:8-9. Confess your sins silently to God, then close your prayer time in thanksgiving for all Christ has done for you!