

September 30/
October 1, 2017



Paradise Lost

OPENING

- Since Adam and Eve had not yet eaten from the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, do you think they knew deception was possible?

READ GENESIS 3:1-5

- The serpent would have known which tree was off-limits to Adam and Eve. Why did he ask Eve if God had forbidden them to eat from *any* of the trees?
- The serpent does not just lie. His words are laced with some truth. What true statements did the serpent make? Why would he include honesty in his attack?

READ GENESIS 3:8-13

- The story of the Fall is often referenced as an example God's anger. What does His initial response say about His heart towards Adam and Eve though?
- Why did Adam and Eve immediately try to pass the blame for their actions? Do we replicate this when God convicts us of our sin? What happens when we withhold our honesty from God?

Read Luke 4:3-13

- In this second deception from the serpent, how was Christ's response different than Adam and Eve's? How can we replicate that?

MAKING IT REAL

- Likely, none of us have audibly heard a snake tell us to do something. What voices have you heard speak deceptively to you? What do they say?

"Our Bible begins in Chapter 1 & 2. This pictures God's desire, His will, His plan. He will win. We heal the 6 Broken Places to give the world a taste of the future in the present."

-Tim Ayers

- What made Eden perfect that was lost after Adam and Eve ate from the tree?
- Compare the world before and after the Fall. If Eden was God's perfect desire for us on this Earth, do you think we can get back a taste of it now post-Jesus' death and resurrection? In what ways?

PRAY TOGETHER

Praise and thank God that He is presently at work drawing His people back to Eden.

Confess times when you were deceived.

Ask Him for discernment to identify deception and power to overcome.