

GOD STARTED IT

Elementary
Week 4

PARENT BIBLE STUDY

Read: Genesis 3

Genesis 3 is the first time that we see God's creation, specifically humankind, choosing a path that goes against what God says is right and true and good. We see from Adam and Eve's example the destruction that comes from life apart from our good God. But, even in the very beginning, God set in motion actions that lead to Jesus' act of redemption on the cross (Mark 2:17).

From Adam and Eve we learn several things about who God is. God desires good things for us and created that to be so in the beginning. We also see God's discipline. God sets boundaries for us because a good father disciplines his children (Hebrews 12:4-6). In Genesis 2:16-17, God tells Adam that he may eat from any tree in the garden, except for one – the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He does this out of love and protection; for the consequence of eating from that tree is death.

We also see Satan's character in this chapter. Satan is crafty and sneaky. He doesn't often come running at us with choices wrapped in red tape and clearly labeled as sin. Instead, he manipulates and lures us into sin, slowly by slowly, allowing us to justify in our minds the lie that going against God's will for us is actually a better way to live life.

So, how do we recognize and actively work against sin in our lives? Matthew Henry commentates that it takes three steps:

- 1.) Trust God and find the good path by studying Scripture and through prayer.
- 2.) Understand that sin hurts us long into the future, and is never better than God's will.
- 3.) Actively resist Satan, his temptations, manipulations, and lies, and he'll flee from us.

Where in your life are you believing lies that Satan is whispering to you?

What truth from God is being manipulated and twisted in that situation?