Sermon Notes and Daily Devotional First Congregational Church of Woodstock Rev. John Meinen August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

9:30 Morning Worship Service:

Genesis 3:1-6

# Where Are You?

1. What Does the Devil Do?

2. What Do We Do?

3. What Does God Do?

How will you live out the truth of what you have heard today? What do you need to thank God for in light of this Scripture? What do you need to trust Christ about as a result? How is the Holy Spirit leading you in repentance in these things? How can you encourage others in what you have heard?

### Romans 5:17-21

For if, *because of one man's trespass*, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. <sup>19</sup>For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. <sup>20</sup>Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, <sup>21</sup> so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Second Corinthians 11:3-4

But I am afraid that *as the serpent deceived Eve* by his cunning, your thoughts will be *led astray* from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ. For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you put up with it readily enough.

## First Corinthians 15:50-57

<sup>50</sup> I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. <sup>51</sup> Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

<sup>55</sup> "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

<sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But *thanks be to God*, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Luke 16:14-15

<sup>14</sup> The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "*You are those who justify yourselves* before men, but *God knows your hearts*. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

## Luke 19:9-11

<sup>9</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For *the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.*"

# **Taking Gathered Worship Home**

Adam and Eve? Well, if they actually existed, we think to ourselves, when they disobeyed, God really let them have it! Except what we find in the Bible is very different. He pursues them not with retribution, but with grace. Let's explore that together, shall we?

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

#### **Sunday Morning**

READ Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 5:17-21; Second Corinthians 11:3-4; First Corinthians 15:50-57; Luke 16:14-15; 19:9-11; Psalm 13:1-6. DISCUSS What do you do when confronted with your sin? Do you hide? What has God done? Why? How does that give us freedom? MEDITATE on John 1:29, 34. PRAY "God, *You* alone are God! *Forgive us* for all the ways we distrust You, when *You alone are faithful.*"

#### **Sunday Evening**

Young Adult Fellowship meets at 6pm in the church library.

#### Monday

READ Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 5:17-21; Psalm 13:1-6. DISCUSS How did Jesus answer the problem of our rebellion? Pray through Psalm 13 personally. SERVE by taking time to help someone! MEDITATE on John 1:29, 34. PRAY, "God, You have been sovereignly working out our salvation all along. Thank You!"

#### Tuesday

READ Genesis 3:1-6; Second Corinthians 11:3-4; Psalm 13:1-6. DISCUSS How is the land related to our inheritance as God's people? What does this have to do with the New Heavens and New Earth? MEDITATE on John 1:29, 34. PRAY, "Redeemer, Thank You for securing us in Your matchless love. We praise You for undoing our sin and rebellion and granting us Your perfect obedience."

#### Wednesday

READ Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 5:17-21; First Corinthians 15:50-57; Psalm 13:1-6. DISCUSS How can those who have rebelled against God delight in His victory over death? MEDITATE on John 1:29, 34. PRAY, "God, thank You for giving us the victory in Jesus Christ. Thank You for *not* leaving us in death's cold night."

#### Thursday

READ Genesis 3:1-6; Second Corinthians 11:3-4; Luke 16:14-15; 19:9-11; Psalm 13:1-6. DISCUSS How are we prone to justify ourselves like the Pharisees? How is this just another form of self-deceit? How does the gospel counter our lies? SERVE by putting someone else's interests *above your own*! MEDITATE on John 1:29, 34. PRAY, "God, teach us to live in Your truth."

#### Friday

READ Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 5:17-21; Second Corinthians 11:3-4; First Corinthians 15:50-57; Luke 16:14-15; 19:9-11; Psalm 13:1-6. DISCUSS What has God been teaching you this week? SERVE by *caring for someone in need*! MEDITATE on John 1:29, 34. PRAY that we at FCCW would *trust Christ together*.

#### Saturday

PREPARE today for gathered Sunday worship tomorrow. CONSIDER What can you do today to be better prepared for gathering with God's people tomorrow? READ **Psalm 143**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for the worship service @ 9:30 am. PRAY, "Lord, prepare Your people for Your praises. Gather us together to delight in You."

# John 1:29, 34

The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, *the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!* ...And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."