

Week 1 – Good News in Spite of Us

Ice Breaker

Share a story or moment from your life when you experienced the tension between what seemed "good" in the moment and the long-term consequences. It could be a decision, a choice, or an experience that shaped your understanding of the concept of "good."

Discussion Questions

1. Reflecting on the sermon and Genesis 1:27-31:
 - How do you typically define "good" in your daily life? How does it align or differ from the biblical perspective described in Genesis 1:27-31?
 - In what ways do you see the world's definition of "good" influencing your decisions and attitudes?
2. Exploring the serpent's tactics and temptation (Genesis 3:1-6):
 - Have you ever experienced a situation where doubt was cast on what you believed to be right or true? How did you handle it?
3. Understanding the consequences of sin (Genesis 3:7-10):
 - How has shame affected your relationship with God and others in the past? How do you see shame playing out in our culture today?
 - Discuss the difference between guilt and shame. How can guilt be a positive force that points us toward a solution?
4. Dealing with blame and accountability (Genesis 3:11-13):
 - Reflect on times when you've shifted blame onto others for your mistakes. How did it impact your relationships?
 - What does it mean to approach God with honesty and accountability in confessing our sins, as mentioned in 1 John 1:9?
5. Embracing the Good News and freedom (Genesis 3:21, 2 Corinthians 5:21):
 - How can we practically live in the freedom and forgiveness offered through God's perfect covering?

Key Takeaway or Action Item:

Challenge each member to take time this week for personal reflection and prayer. Encourage them to identify an area in their lives where they might be complacent, experiencing shame, or placing blame. Ask them to bring this to God in confession, accepting responsibility, seeking His mercy, and embracing the freedom found in the Good News.