



Once Upon a Time

The Story God is Telling and How You Fit

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Week 3- October 1, 2017

Where It All Went Wrong

(Genesis 3)

Introduction: A storm is on a collision course with Paradise...

The Deception

- Step 1: Deny the Consequences (3:1-4)
- Step 2: Create Doubt in God's Goodness (3:5)
- Step 3: Arouse Curiosity, then Step Back (3:5)

The Decision

- Internal: I'll decide for myself what is good for me. (3:6a)
- External: I'll take what I want, no matter the cost. (3:6b)

The Debris

- Mankind's Relationships are Broken (3:7-10, 16)
- Mankind's Responsibility will be Resisted (3:17-19)

Conclusion:

- We are in a desperate situation. We need a rescue!
- The harmony of Creation (ch.1) has been undone by the Fall (ch. 2). God's plans are about to fail. What will God do now?



Icebreakers:

1. Has your curiosity ever gotten the best of you and led you to do something that turned out to be really dumb? Tell the story!
2. Which is worse: to get caught sinning or to get away with it? Why?

Sermon Summary: Humanity has been masterfully deceived and made the horrifying decision to distrust God and decide for ourselves what is good and bad. Now our relationships are broken and our responsibility is resisted. We need a rescue desperately!

Discussion Questions:

* *The Deception*

(Read Genesis 3:1-5 together.)

1. Why are we so easily convinced that "it won't happen to me"?
2. Does it really matter that we're convinced that God is good? Why?
3. How do we show with our actions that we doubt God's goodness?

* *The Decision*

(Read Genesis 3:6-7 together.)

4. How do you see the instinct to be your own authority show up in your life? Why do you think we trust our own instincts so much?
5. Give examples of the effects that it can have on relationships and responsibilities to decide you're entitled to **take** what you want.
6. What is the right way to handle those situations when we don't have what we think we need or want?

* *The Debris*

(Read Genesis 3:7-19 together.)

7. Which of the consequences listed here do you find to be the most tragic? Why?
8. Why do you suppose that God punished humanity by cursing the ground? What was he trying to accomplish? Why not just curse us?