

Growth Group Questions

Transfiguration Sunday, February 26, 2023

Introduction

In ancient warfare, battles often began (or were even replaced by) an individual battle between champions of the army. Think of David and Goliath. How is this an appropriate way to think of what Jesus has done for us against Satan?

Into the Word – Genesis 3:1-15

1. What do you make of Eve in verse 2 telling the serpent that they “must not touch” the fruit when God told them not to eat it? How can it be beneficial to add to what God commands? How can it be dangerous?
2. Why did God ask so many questions when he clearly knows where they were and what they had done?
3. Verse 15 is called the “protevangelion”, that is the “first Gospel.” When was this important and gracious prophecy fulfilled?

Into the Word – Romans 5:12-19

4. What quality of mankind helps us understand how verses 12-14 can be true? How could a person be guilty of sin even if they could hypothetically not break God’s command?
5. Discuss the comparison between Adam and Jesus. What did each one bring to all mankind and what did they do to bring it? Describe the consequences in terms of relationship.

6. Verse 18 tells us that Jesus brought justification and life to “all people.” But we also know from Scripture that not everybody goes to heaven. How is this possible? What’s the difference?
7. The Bible uses the terms justification and salvation in two senses, one universal and one personal. It’s good to be familiar with these two terms and concepts. Discuss.
 - Objective Justification – Jesus died for all. The price for all sin was paid on the cross.
 - Subjective Justification – The payment for sins is applied to me personally through faith.
8. Agree or disagree: The sins of people eternally damned in hell are paid for.

Into the Word – Matthew 4:1-11

9. Scripture says Satan speaks his native tongue when he lies. But distorting the truth’s meaning can also be a lie. Explain how Satan uses Scripture in the 2nd temptation. How do some imitate his lies in the way they use Scripture today?
10. How does Jesus overcome the devil’s temptations? Look up Ephesians 6:17 to see how this tool is described there.
11. Jesus was tempted when he was hungry and alone, but overcame. When are we most vulnerable to temptation? Discuss as a group ways to fight temptation in those times and situations.

Closing Prayer

Jesus, you overcame the devil to give us eternal victory. Thank you for your grace and help me to follow your commands. Amen.