

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

MARCH 31ST, 2024 // RESURRECTION WEEKEND

CONSEQUENCES (GENESIS 3:1-10) IN THE BEGINNING

In the first two chapters of Genesis, we see God creating all things, including Adam and Eve. It was good. Adam and Eve were in a close relationship with God, walking and talking with God daily.

- **God created us to be with Him and to know Him through a relationship with Him.**

THE FALL

In chapter three, we're introduced to the serpent who reminds Eve of the temptation in the middle of the garden. The tree had always been there, but this was the time that Adam and Eve would disobey God and eat the fruit.

- **We still have "forbidden fruit." How often do we disobey?**

HIDING

After their sin, Adam and Eve were ashamed of who they had become. They tried to hide themselves with leaves and shadows. God called out to them because they were not walking with him. For the first time, they were afraid.

- **This is why so many people live in fear.**

RESURRECTION (LUKE 24:1-12) SURPRISE!

These ladies went to Jesus' tomb to anoint his body and find an open, empty tomb. Suddenly, two angels appeared and began to speak. Terrified, they hid their faces and bowed to the ground.

- **When grieving, broken, and feeling lost, we aren't expecting good things to happen. God still does good things!**

REMEMBER

After a mild rebuke, the angels reminded them of Jesus' words. They remembered that He said He would rise. Everything was about to change.

- **God has given us His word, full of His promises. Will we take the time to reread it and remember that He has made a way for us to live with Him?**

NONSENSE

They ran back to town and told the disciples what they had seen and heard. The men didn't believe, but Peter wanted to see for himself. Maybe because he had lost the one relationship that had given his life purpose.

- **The resurrection gives us hope and purpose. Are we living like we know it?**

CONVERSATION (LUKE 24:13-24) THE SAME DAY

After Peter ran to the tomb, a couple of the men started to walk to a nearby town. As they discussed recent events, a stranger began walking with them. When He asked what they were talking about, they stopped walking, and the pain could be seen on their faces.

- **Talking about our pain may not be enough. We may need to stop and tell Him.**

WHAT THINGS?

This man tells Jesus about the Messiah: He was powerful and perfect, but the leaders had him crucified. He was supposed to be our redeemer, but He was put in a tomb three days ago. Some women said He is alive. But we haven't seen Him.

- **Jesus walks with us as we follow Him. Sometimes, we may need to remind ourselves of all He has done for us.**

REVEALED (LUKE 24:25-35) SLOW TO BELIEVE

As Jesus looks into their sad faces, He challenges them to think of what they should already know.

Beginning with Moses, Jesus teaches the greatest Old Testament Bible study ever! Every page is about Him and His coming as a sacrifice for all who believe.

- **God has always had a plan to restore, and it has always been Jesus.**

STAY WITH US

These men had spent hours talking about Jesus, with Jesus. They didn't want the conversation to stop, so they invited Him to their home.

- **Walking with Jesus means more than a light conversation with other believers. As we learn more about Him from Him, we will want to be with Him even more. We will become hungry for His Word.**

BURNING HEARTS

As Jesus broke the bread, they recognized Him, and everything was about to change again. Their hearts burned to hear Him speak as they walked, and now, they would run back to Jerusalem to tell the others.

- **As we walk with Jesus, our hunger for His Word will turn into a burning heart that will want to share who He is and what He has done. Others need Jesus.**

RESTORED (JOHN 21:15-19) BREAKFAST

Before breakfast, Peter and some other men had been fishing. Jesus, from the shore, told them to cast their nets. The nets became full; John cried out, "It is the Lord!" Peter jumped in the water and swam about 100 yards to be with Jesus.

- **What is it that is keeping us away from Christ? Are we willing to crawl, walk, run, or swim to be with Him? We don't have to.**

A WALK WITH JESUS

After eating, Jesus takes a walk with Peter. Peter remembers that he denied Jesus three times, and each time Jesus asks, "Do you love me?" he remembers a little more, and it brings him to grief that reveals a great humility: "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you."

- **Walking with Jesus means walking without pride because He knows us.**

CREATED

- God created us to walk with Him.
- **We are separated from Him because of our sins.**
- **God is perfect, holy, and righteous. His presence requires perfection, holiness, and righteousness. We are not these things because we chose ourselves.**

JESUS

- Jesus was not created. He is God.
- **Jesus lived a perfect, holy, and righteous life.**
- **As the only perfect sacrifice, He gave His life as a payment for our sins, and this has always been God's plan for our restoration to a relationship with Him.**

WALK

- We can walk with Jesus.
- **God made a way, and God wants to walk with us.**
- **We may be stuck thinking we're not ready or not forgivable. Maybe we need to stop running away; stop and take a walk in His Word—see Him, hear Him, and walk with Him as He says, "Follow Me."**