

SPIRITUAL WARFARE – PART I

“The Beginning of War”

Genesis 3:1-13

We are at war! We live in a spiritual battle that we must not be naïve about. What is the nature of this conflict? What caused the war? Was there an incident that triggered the conflict? This morning Pastor Bruce will take us to the beginning of the battle and show us how the war began and what we can do as good soldiers of Jesus.

#1. GOD PLACED AN _____ IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN TO _____ ADAM AND EVE, v. 1

- A. God gave one commandment, Gen 2:16-17
- B. God tested their obedience
- C. God warned them about the effects of disobedience - death

#2. THE SERPENT TEMPTED EVE TO DISOBEY GOD’S WORD, vv. 1-5

- A. The serpent is more crafty - shrewd, sensible
- B. The serpent’s question, “Did God really say”?
- C. The woman didn’t fully know God’s word
- D. The serpent told a half truth about death how could they know what death was?
- E. The big lie – you will be like God knowing good and evil

APPLICATION POINTS

- 1. You’ll be like God: I’m the _____ of my like
- 2. Knowing good and evil: I create my own _____

#3. THE WOMAN CAVED IN AND ATE THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT, v. 6

- A. The words describing temptation: When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was **good for food** and **pleasing to the eye**, and also **desirable for gaining wisdom**, she took some and ate it. 1 John 2:16, James 1:13-15
- B. The woman gave some to Adam & he ate – what was he thinking?

#4. THE ORIGINAL SIN OF ADAM & EVE HAD DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, vv. 7-11

- A. Their eyes were opened – they _____ spiritually & physically
- B. They experienced _____ and covered themselves
- C. They heard God and _____ from him
- D. The big question God asks everyone, “Where are you?”
- E. They are _____ of God because of their nakedness
- F. The big question: “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree I told you not to eat from?”

#5. THE ORIGINAL SIN OF ADAM & EVE HAD DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OTHER, vv. 12-13

- A. The man blamed it on God: the woman you put here
- B. The woman gave me some fruit and I ate – it’s her fault!
- C. The big question: “What is this you have done?”
- D. The answer: “The serpent deceived me and I ate.”

APPLICATION POINT

- At any point in the conversation the man and woman could have _____ and sought _____

#6. THE ORIGINAL SIN OF ADAM & EVE HAD DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR ALL ADAM’S OFFSPRING, Romans 5

- A. Sin entered the world through Adam, Romans 5:12,18-19
- B. Sin is a constant battle for us, 1 Peter 2:11
- C. Sin is atoned for by one man - Jesus

ANSWERS: Antagonist, Test, Boss, Moral Compass, Died, Shame, Hid, Afraid, Confessed, Forgiveness.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- #1. Why did God determine that Adam and Eve had to be tested?
- #2. What observations can you make about the way the serpent tempted the woman?
- #3. Discuss how the woman caved in to the temptation and ate the forbidden fruit.
- #4. Adam was with her, but why didn't he stop her from eating the fruit?
- #5. Discuss the changes that occurred in their relationship with God after they ate the fruit.
- #6. Discuss the changes that occurred in their relationship with each other after they ate the forbidden fruit.
- #7. What is your takeaway from this teaching?

NOTES:

Welcome To Hillcrest Church

Love, Acceptance & Forgiveness

"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Genesis 3:4-5

January 21, 2024

Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY – NEW TEACHING SERIES

Pastor Bruce will begin a new series titled “Spiritual Warfare.” This series will give us numerous insights into the nature of the battle we face every day.

NEXT WEEK

We welcome Paul Milton to the pulpit, who will deliver an inspiring message about the Jesus story.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM IS CANCELLED

Pastors Bruce and Tim will be attending a district retreat all week. The Tuesday ministry will resume January 30th at 7pm.

MEN’S BREAKFAST – SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

The men are invited to Roseville City Church at 9:00 to share breakfast and fellowship. Pastor Bruce will be sharing his testimony.

LIFE GROUPS

One objective for 2024 is to develop a thriving small group ministry, which we are now calling Life groups. Sign up at the SPOT. The start date is Thursday, February 1st running for 8 weeks. The format is:

- Dinner at 5:45
- Bible Study & Prayer 6:30 – 7:30

There are 2 groups to choose from:

Tim Brooks & Keith Hallsten will be going through selected passages in the gospel of John

Pastor Bruce & Paul Milton will be doing another teaching, yet to be determined.

Childcare is available

NEIGHBORHOOD WALK - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1PM

Meet at church then venture out into the neighborhood inviting people to Hillcrest. As opportunity arises you can share the Jesus story.

WORSHIP WITH THREE CHURCHES – FEBRUARY 18

Hillcrest Church, Roseville City Church and Casa De Dios will be worshipping together at 10:30. The service will be followed by a big feast. This should be a great experience for all of us to worship together and have the sanctuary packed.

WE WELCOME OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS SERVING IN 2024

Keith Hallsten – Facilities coordinator

Don Koenes – Treasurer

Kathy Brooks – Children’s Director

Paul Milton – Outreach and missions coordinator / elder

Jeff McAuliffe – Elder over worship & media

Pastor Bruce – Secretary & chair

We thank those who served in 2023 and have come off the board:

Vinod & Nalini Singh, Melissa Olsen

THE SPOT

From now on the table in the back of the sanctuary is designated THE SPOT.

STEWARDSHIP

We appreciate your financial support of Hillcrest church. You can place your donations (tithes & offerings) at the SPOT. We will be providing you with monthly reports on our giving throughout 2024.

