EQUIP

When it all fell apart – Small Group Session Two Week beginning 25th September



Being Equipped

We know we only have one life to live and none of us want to waste our lives. We want to get to the final day having served God boldly and we want to receive from Him the crown of glory. To live bold lives 'sold out' for God, we have seen that we need to come back to a few basic eternal truths. We need to let those truths dramatically impact our lives. That is what we are doing as we ask, 'What is the gospel?'

Last time we started to set 'everything' in the right context. We were reminded that God is our creator and we His creation. His creation is good and abundant, generous and full of blessing. It all comes from God and He is the one who even now sustains it.

God's creation is also ordered and the Maker tells us how we can live in the creation, under His loving instruction. In fact he gives just one command, to not eat from one tree. But now we come to the heart of the problem that has wrecked our world. This week we begin to see where it has all gone wrong...

Like last week, some of these truths might be familiar to many of us. The key to this series is not to learn lots of new things, but to allow a few eternal truths to impact us deeply. So my friends, prepare to allow yourself to be completely devastated by the reality of sin and judgment. It is devastating and we need to be brave enough to open our hearts to face reality as it really is.

Before you begin - why not pray for each other -pray that the Lord will support you by His Spirit as we are wrecked once again by the fallen state of our world.

So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground

When it all fell apart

How does it all go wrong?

So this week we are going to make a couple more lists, here is the first, label it 'Ways Adam and Eve Go Wrong'.

Now read Genesis 3:1-6 and write down some of the main ways. As you do that, think back to what we saw in Genesis 1-2. Given what we saw about creation itself, why is their sin so serious?

Having completed the list, now pause for a moment. What would you say is the heart of their sin. Try to summarise it.

2 God's response

Now get ready for a second list - What is the result of their sin?'

Now read Genesis 3:7-24 and complete this tragic list.

So with the list complete now pause again, think back to last week. How has creation been changed as a result of sin?

5 Impact on Us

Now we need to spend some time dwelling on the significance of these truths for us as we think about giving the whole of our lives to serving God.

How do these things change the way we view God? How do they change how we think about our world? How do they change how we think about our lives?

Take time to let these things sink in, this should take about 15 minutes as you reflect and talk together.

I hope as you have looked at the devastating state of our world you have felt a growing longing for Jesus to return, for sin to be no more and for our broken world to be made new. Creation is certainly longing for that day - Romans 8:19-21. Maybe listen to 'There is a Day' at the end of video that goes with this study and pray together - come Lord Jesus!