**Genesis: Back To the Beginning**

**The Garden**

**Genesis 2:4-17**

**Downloads**

**Daily Time With Truth**

As you read these daily scriptures, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What is God saying to me?
2. What do I want to say to God in response?
3. How will I live out this truth?

**Day 1: 2 Corinthians 3:17 (NLT)**

For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

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**Day 2: Romans 5:19 (TPT)**

One man’s disobedience opened the door for all humanity to become sinners. So also one man’s obedience opened the door for many to be made perfectly right with God and acceptable to him.

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**Day 3: Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)**

For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

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**Day 4: James 1:25 (AMP)**

But he who looks carefully into the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and faithfully abides by it, not having become a [careless] listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he will be blessed *and* favored by God in what he does [in his life of obedience].

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**Day 5: James 1:13-14 (TPT)**

When you are tempted don’t ever say, “God is tempting me,” for God is incapable of being tempted by evil and he is never the source of temptation. Instead it is each person’s own desires and thoughts that drag them into evil and lure them away into darkness.

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**Discussion Questions**

1. Do you believe in life on other planets? Read Romans 5:12; Romans 8:18-25.

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1. Read Genesis 2:1-3. What are some reasons for rest?

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1. Why did God place the two trees in the center of the garden? What are the trees in the center of your life?

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1. What role was Adam given in the Garden of Eden by God? (Genesis 2:15-17.) Why did God give the command to Adam and not to Eve?

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1. Read Genesis 3:3. Did God say to Adam that he couldn’t touch the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil? (Genesis 2:16-17) Discuss.

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1. Many believe that if you clean the environment, humanity will follow by cleaning up their own lives. Why is this not true?

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**Digging Deeper**

**2:7** “From the dust of the ground” implies that there is nothing fancy about the chemical elements making up our bodies. The body is a lifeless shell until God brings it to life with his “breath of life.” When God removes his life-giving breath, our bodies once again return to dust. Our lives and worth, therefore, come from God’s Spirit. Many boast of their achievements and abilities as though they were the originator of their own strengths. Others feel worthless because their abilities do not stand out. In reality, our worth comes not from our achievements but from the God of the universe, who chooses to give us this mysterious and miraculous gift of life. Value life, as he does.

**2:15-17** God gave Adam responsibility for the garden and told him not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Rather than physically preventing him from eating, God gave Adam a choice, and thus the possibility of choosing wrongly. God still gives us choices, and we, too, often choose wrongly. These wrong choices may cause us pain, but they can help us learn and grow and make better choices in the future. Living with the consequences of our choices teaches us to think and choose more carefully.

**2:16, 17** Why would God place a tree in the garden and then forbid Adam to eat from it? God wanted Adam to obey, but God gave Adam the freedom to choose. Without choice, Adam would have been a prisoner, and his obedience would have been hollow. The two trees provided an exercise in choice, with rewards for choosing to obey and sad consequences for choosing to disobey. When you are faced with the choice, always obey God.

1.God intricately designed the human body to the smallest molecule in order for it to function in rhythm and order, with every part serving a purpose and following the directions sent through the brain. Yet without the breath of God to bring the body to life, it is it is only designated dust destined to return to the grave. What makes all human life so sacred? How can we honor God by honoring His image bearers?

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2. Why was it necessary for God to design man with free choice? What benefits come to us from both good and bad choices? How can a person know what to choose?

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