**Genesis: Back To the Beginning**

**The Fall**

**Genesis 3:1-7**

**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 11:3 (NLT)**

But I fear that somehow your pure and undivided devotion to Christ will be corrupted, just as Eve was deceived by the cunning ways of the serpent.

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**Day 2: Romans 5:12 (TPT)**

When Adam sinned, the entire world was affected. Sin entered human experience, and death was the result. And so death followed this sin, casting its shadow over all humanity, because all have sinned.

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**Day 3: 1 Cor 10:13 (TPT)**

We all experience times of testing which is normal for every human being. But God will be faithful to you. He will screen and filter the severity, nature, and timing of every test or trial you face so that you can bear it. And each test is an opportunity to trust him more, for along with every trial God has provided for you a way of escape that will bring you out of it victoriously.

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**Day 4: James 1:13-15 (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. Evil desires give birth to evil actions. And when sin is fully mature it can murder you!

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**Day 5: Psalm 119:11 (NLT)**

I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

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**Discussion Questions**

1. What surprised you about the temptation in the garden? Do you see similarities in how the devil tempts you?

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1. Read Deuteronomy 4:2. Why is it important that we know the Word of God as it pertains to temptation? What is the danger of adding to the Word of God?

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1. Read James 1:14-15. What is the pattern for most sin?

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1. Read Genesis 3:1-6. What was the basic sin committed by Adam and Eve, and what was the motivation behind it?

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1. Read the Temptation of Jesus in Matthew 5. What are some similarities between the temptation of Jesus and the temptation of Adam and Eve? How did Jesus ultimately dismiss the devil that Adam and Eve did not do?

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1. What is the difference between the statement in Genesis 1:26 (“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness”) and Satan’s statement in Genesis 3:5 (“you will be like God…”)?

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**Digging Deeper**

#### **3. (4-5) Satan’s direct challenge to God’s Word.**

**Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”**

a. **You will not surely die**: Satan effectively laid the groundwork. He drew Eve into a discussion with him and planted the seed of doubt about God’s Word, and he exposed Eve’s incomplete understanding of God’s Word. Now he moves in for the kill, with an outright contradiction of what God said.

i. Satan can only effectively work when he has established a foothold. No one falls like Adam and Eve will fall, “all of a sudden.” A foundation has been laid.

ii. This is why we are called to never *give place to the devil* ([Ephesians 4:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+4.27&t=NKJV)). This shows how remarkable it is that Jesus could say, “Satan *has nothing in Me*” ([John 14:30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+14.30&t=NKJV)).

b. **You will not surely die**: Satan first wanted Eve to forget all about what God said about the consequences of sin. When we know and remember the consequences of sin, we are more likely to give up the *passing pleasures of sin* ([Hebrews 11:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+11.25&t=NKJV)).

i. In Satan’s direct challenge, he tries to get Eve to doubt the *goodness of God*. If God lies to her, how can He be good?

ii. In Satan’s direct challenge, he tries to get Eve to doubt the *badness of sin*. If this fruit is something good for her, why doesn’t God want her to have it?

iii. Satan wants us to see sin as something good that a bad God doesn’t want us to have. His main lie to us is “sin is not bad, and God is not good.”

iv. “Satan and the flesh will present a thousand reasons to show how good it would be to disobey His command.” (Barnhouse)

c. **In the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened**: Satan’s temptation was all the more powerful because there was *truth* in it. It was true **your eyes will be opened**, and this was fulfilled ([Genesis 3:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+3.7&t=NKJV)). But their eyes were instantly opened to their own sin and rebellion.

i. It is as if a deaf person was promised to be able to hear again, but all they could hear was screaming.

ii. Their eyes were opened, they did know good and evil, but not as *gods*. A complete lie is rarely effective in temptation. If Satan doesn’t couple it with some truth, there is little power in his temptation.

d. **You will be like God, knowing good and evil**: The final enticement was the most powerful because it was how Satan himself fell, wanting to be equal with God. Eve tried to become a god by rebelling against God.

i. Jewish rabbis embellished on Satan’s temptation to Eve: “Nothing but malice has prompted God’s command, because as soon as you eat of it, you will be as God. As He creates and destroys worlds, so will you have the power to create and destroy. As He does kill and revive, so will you have the power to kill and revive. God Himself ate first of the fruit of the tree, and then He created the world. Therefore, He forbids you to eat of it, lest you create other worlds… Hurry now and eat the fruit of the tree in the midst of the garden, and become independent of God, lest He bring forth still other creatures that will rule over you” (Ginzberg). <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/genesis-3/>

1.What was Satan’s strategy to cause the fall of man?

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2. What can we learn from Eve’s failure in order to protect ourselves against Satan’s attempts to entice us to sin?

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