



All Christians' Fellowship International

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Study to show "The Way of True Life." Bible Study Outline

TOPIC: **God's Design Marred**
TEXT: **Genesis 3**

Instructions: - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone can participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction: Occasionally, someone breaks into an art museum and slashes a painting. We all feel the pain because a beautiful work of art has been marred. In Genesis 1 and 2, God designed marriage to meet our physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The man and woman experience openness and ease in their relationship. But something happened to damage that ideal relationship. In Genesis 3, we see how guilt, fear, pride, and blame cause barriers between God and us, as well as a host of marital problems.

1. Recall a childhood experience when you damaged a prized family possession or secretly disobeyed your parents. What mixture of emotions did you feel while you waited to be found out?
2. Reflect on how pride or guilt has damaged your relationship with another person. What pattern of behavior do you see?
3. Focus on Genesis 3:1-7-scene 1 in this drama. Visualize the setting in which the action occurs. How does it contribute to the story? What conflicts are going on in this scene?
4. What insinuations/suggestions does Satan make about God in his conversation with the woman (vs. 1-5)?
5. What choices do the woman and her husband make, and why?
6. What immediate change does sin produce in the man and woman (v. 7)?
7. In the previous chapter, "the man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame" (v. 25). Now, Adam and Eve make coverings for themselves. Consider your own emotions. Describe how sin causes us to hide, to cover ourselves, to feel shame, to be ill at ease with another.
8. Look at verses 8-13 as scene 2 in this drama. God enters the scene asking questions, but not because he needs information. What is God doing for the man and woman by asking them these questions?

9. In this scene, what changes have occurred in Adam and Eve's attitude toward God and toward each other (vs. 10, 12-13)?

10. In what way did they die when they ate the fruit?

11. How can fear, self-consciousness, or blame affect the quality of our relationship with God?

12. Look at verses 14-24-scene 3. How does the description of the husband-wife relationship in verse 16 differ from God's original design in chapter 2?

13. What do you learn about God from his actions toward Adam and Eve in verses 21-24?

14. Adam and Eve's sin had consequences for all of God's creation. But which specific contemporary problems between husbands and wives have their source in our basic rebellion against God?