



GENESIS GROUP GUIDE

SCRIPTURE DEVOTION | GEN. 3:14-24

Last week, we began our exploration of the fall of humanity through their temptation and, ultimately, their rebellion. We will continue that study this week as we look at the curses, consequences, and care God gives in response to man's sin in Genesis 3:14-24. The exploration of both the depth of our sin & its effects and the matchless abounding grace of God is foundational for our relationship with Christ.

GENERAL SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS

Read Genesis 3:14-24 individually or aloud giving a few minutes for reflection & prayer.

- What does this text say about God?
 - How would you describe God after reading this passage? What do you learn about God's character and nature? How does this passage relate to how society defines God?
- What does this text say about people?
 - What do you learn about people's character and nature? How does this compare to what society says or believes about people?
- What does this text say about how we should live in light of what he has done?
 - What should I change in my life based on what I've read? Should I be praying about anything? Do I need to confess anything? Are there any promises I need to take hold of? What truths do I need to receive?

TEXT-BASED ONE ANOTHERING QUESTIONS

This time for group members to practice confession, repentance, accountability, biblical encouragement, etc. with the help of the Holy Spirit through his word.

- In Genesis 3:14-25 we see a picture of the consequence of sin for mankind. In their sin, the man and woman have aligned themselves with the serpent, trusting his deceptive lies rather than God. This relationship with Satan and his kingdom then necessitates the fracturing of all good relationships God has given to man & woman. Their relationship with God, each other, and creation is marred in their pursuit of sin.
 - Relationship with Creation:
 - In your relationship with creation, how have you experienced the consequences of man's sin? (mental or physical illness, pain, death, toil in work, calamity (weather, accidents, etc.)) How does your heart and mind initially respond to these experiences? (fear, gratitude, anger, grief, etc.)
 - With the gospel in mind, what hope do we have *now* as we experience of these consequences? What hope do we have in the future?
 - Relationship with Others:
 - Being careful & prayerful against gossip, can you think of a time recently, that you have sinned against? How did your heart and mind initially respond? Did your response change over time? (ie: growing resentment or sanctification) How can your group help you align with Christ's kingdom as you heal? (boundaries, forgiveness, accountability, advocacy, etc.)
 - Being careful & prayerful against gossip, can you think of a time recently, that you have sinned against another image-bearer? How did your heart and mind initially respond? Has your response changed over time? (ie: growing justification/minimization or humility/repentance) What do you think obedience to Christ looks like in this relationship? How can your group help you walk in repentance and obedience to Christ in this relationship?
 - With the gospel in mind, what hope do we have now in our relationships with others? What hope do we have in the future for our relationships with one another?
 - Relationship with God:
 - For those in Christ, it can be helpful to remember who you were before God saved you into covenantal relationship with him. Think of two words or phrases to describe your life before you came to know Christ. Try finishing this sentence, "There was a time in my life that I was _____ and _____," (ex. angry, depressed, felt alone, tired, arrogant, selfish, etc.)
 - *Continued on next page...*

- For those in Christ, it can be helpful to remember who Christ is and what he has done on your behalf so that you can have right relationship with God. Think of two words or phrases to articulate what Christ has done for you. Try finishing this sentence, " But God showed me that Jesus (is) _____ and _____ , and I repented and believed in him." (ex, died for my sins, makes orphans children of God, loves me, the only way to God, never leaves, took the punishment for my sin, etc.)
 - For those in Christ, it can be helpful to remember how God has sanctified you and given you a new hope. Think of two words or phrases that describe how God has change you or your life. Try finishing some form of this sentence, "Now, because of Christ, I am _____ and _____." (ex. secure, patient, know that I am loved, grateful, etc.)
 - Take time as a group to put these sentences together. Have each group member share their 15-second testimony. (*Fun option: You can toss a pillow around the room, whoever has the pillow shares! Go around a couple of times!*)
- We see also in this text God's promise to defeat the serpent & restore his kingdom (15), his swift act of removing the man and woman out of the garden for their protection (24) and his provision of clothes through the first shedding of blood (21). These are all small glimpses of the coming full revelation of Christ. How does knowing God had a plan and was already moving to provide for your greatest need (restored relationship with him), change or deepen your affection for & devotion to him?

MISSION

Evangelism

We want to be intentional in our everyday lives to have gospel conversations with people that don't know Jesus. These people God has placed in our path are not projects, but friends. Friends we long to see have the hope and joy of Christ! Have each group member choose one person they are going to pray for and initiate conversations with about Jesus. Each week, follow up:

- Were they able to share the gospel with them, encourage them, or pray with them this week?
- How can the group pray for the group member? How can the group pray for the person they are walking with?
- What is one next step they can take with this person? Can they ask them to church? To come to community group? Read the Bible together? Etc.

Missions

We want to be mindful and prayerful for the work the Lord is doing in the world. There are tons of ways you can encourage your group members to engage in God's work around the world. Below are some ideas for this week:

- Read a recent update from your group's missionary/missionary family and pray for them.
- Spend time as a group praying for Ukraine and Russia and the conflict there. Pray for the churches in both countries. Check out this [Instagram post](#) for helpful prayer points.

PRAYER

- Check in on life (ex. relationship with Christ (prayer & word), their marriages/singleness, children, etc.) to discover prayer needs.
- Spend time in confession & prayer for those who have shared areas of disbelief, wrong beliefs, sin, etc. during discussion time.
- Spend time as a group praying for Ukraine and Russia and the conflict there. Pray for the churches in both countries. Check out this [Instagram post](#) for helpful prayer points.
- If you have more time or separate time for men & women choose 1-2 questions on the following page for accountability time or create your own.

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS

Knowing the members of your group, and having heard about their week, choose 1-2 questions for your time of confession, encouragement, & prayer. We have gathered these questions from various resources, so feel free to jump around this document or come up with your own questions to best serve your group.

- Have you been a testimony this week to the greatness of Jesus Christ with both your words and actions?
- Have you been exposed to sexually alluring material or allowed your mind to entertain inappropriate thoughts about someone who is not your spouse this week?
- Have you lacked any integrity in your financial dealings this week, or coveted something that does not belong to you?
- Have you been honoring, understanding and generous in your important relationships this past week?
- Have you damaged another person by your words, either behind their back or face-to-face?
- Have you given in to an addictive behavior this week? Explain.
- Have you continued to remain angry toward another?
- Have you secretly wished for another's misfortune so that you might excel?
- Did you finish your reading this week and hear from the Lord? What are you going to do about it?
- Did you spend significant time with God through His Word, prayer, quiet time, devotions, and other spiritual disciplines? How consistent? Is He your driving force?
- What blocks your growth in Christ? What blocks growth, in your other relationships, from becoming more mature and effectual?
- Have you faithfully served the Lord, His people, and the lost?
- Did you go and participate in church activities and worship this week? How so? Why not?
- Have you made your family a priority? What noteworthy activity or deed did you do for your spouse and/or family?
- How have you struggled with sin? What are the sins that have weighed down your walk with God this week?
- What did you do to enhance your relationship with your spouse/friends? What can you do to make that relationship better?
- In what ways has God blessed you this week? How have you shared your blessings?
- What disappointments did you face? Did they consume your thoughts? What did you do about it? What can you learn?
- Have you committed any sexual sin? Did you look at someone lustfully? Have you been alone in a compromising situation? Have you been flirtatious? Have you struggled with pornography or "romance novels?" Have you exposed yourself to any sexually oriented material? Did you put yourself in a situation with anyone that could appear to be compromising, even though it may not have been?
- Have you shared your faith? In what ways? How can you improve? Have you had an opportunity to share with a non-Christian?
- How well are you handling your finances right now? Have your financial dealings been questionable?
- Have you been trustworthy? Have you lied? Stolen? Cheated? Been dishonest or manipulative? Have you elevated yourself over another for your own personal agenda? What about your language and attitude?
- Have you been prideful? Have you been guilty of gossip or anger? Slandered? Shown indifference? Been greedy? Not controlled your tongue?
- Have you demonstrated a servant's heart? How so? What have you done for someone else this week?
- Did you struggle with a disappointment this week? How did you handle it?
- Have you respected and treated your classmates, co-workers and peers graciously by showing them compassion and the love of God in your words and deeds? What can you do to enhance your relationships here?
- How is your level of character, according to the comparison of Gal. 5:22-23 versus Gal. 5:19-21?
- How did you practice joy this week? Have you had a thankful attitude toward God? Have you struggled with anger toward God? How so? What can you do about it?
- Have you taken care of the temple of the Holy Spirit with rest, sleep, exercise, healthy eating, etc? What about addictions, gluttony, or substance abuse?
- Have you been honest while answering these questions? If not, how so? If not, why?
- How can we support you as a group?