

Adam and Eve's Lesson

Week of Sept. 2 - 8, 2019

Introduction

Adam (meaning human) and Eve (meaning living one) represent the story of everyone. They are introduced as the beginning of God's creation of humankind. Following the creation of the world, God created us - humans. Male and female. He gives Adam a purpose - the gift of work to give him fulfillment in his life. He gives Adam dominion over the land and animals - asking him to name the animals, to create an intimate connection between us and the rest of God's creation. Finally, God created Eve, bringing us into a relationship. Through this community, God provides humans with an opportunity to experience the amazing love God has for us. The scripture for this week outlines these beginning promises for us, as God created the world in rich diversity and wholesome innocence.

Lesson

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. **16** And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; **17** but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die." **18** The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

19 Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. **20** So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. **21** So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with

flesh. **22** Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. **23** The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." **24** That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. **25** Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Questions

1. In the passage, the Lord gives Adam three promises: work, naming or dominion over the land, and a relationship. Which of these promises most resonates with your life now?
2. Before the fall, work was given to us as a promise, God's purpose for our lives is a promise that gives us meaning. Do you feel as though you have found God's purpose for your life? If so, or if not, how does this affect how you live day to day?
3. God asked Adam to name the animals of the land and the birds of the sky. What is the significance of giving someone or something a name (for example: a child, a company, a pet, a book)? What effect does that have on the relationship?
4. What was God's promise of a relationship between His first two persons? How do you think this mirrors His desire of a relationship with us?
5. Adam and Eve were unashamed in the presence of the Lord. A feeling that humanity has been unable to feel since the fall. Have you ever felt ashamed? How has your relationship with Christ helped lift some of that shame?
6. Adam, meaning "human", and Eve, meaning "a living one", is not meant to be a story just about two people. It is a story about us. How might this be?
7. We see two portrayals of God in this scripture. First, He talks from afar, bringing order to chaos. We then see God up close and personal, creating and talking

with Adam, giving him Eve. How do you see God in your life? Is He watching from afar or is He going through each moment and decision with you?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we are humbled as we discover the depth of your great creation and the promise that you gave us. Thank you for creating us in your image with a desire to have a relationship with us. We have fallen Lord, and fall everyday in the face of the sins and temptations of this world. Please help us put our relationship with you first, care for the creation you have entrusted to us, and open our hearts to hear the calling that you have for our lives. In Jesus' Name, Amen.