

NOTES:

Joshua Ryan Butler, The Skeletons in God's Closet: The Mercy of Hell, the Surprise of Judgment, the Hope of Holy War:

"I have shared Jeremiah's story to highlight one who has been abused, but I know Jeremiah well enough to know he too has abused and victimized others in his own ways. Just like the rest of us, as sinful as the best of us.

"And, for us all, this must be overcome if we are to inherit the kingdom. In our world torn apart by sin, what will we do? Where will we turn to?"

"Jesus is the crucified King. His cross is the place where love and justice meet. At the cross, we are revealed as loved sinners. The Crucified One bears our sin as victimizers: as those who have perpetrated injustice against his shalom for the world and stand in need of redemption. The Murdered Son identifies with us as victims: as those who have been torn apart by our violent, sin-struck, war-torn world. Jesus both reveals the justice of God against our sin and bears that justice on our behalf, revealing God's unsurpassable love for us.

Jesus' arms outstretched on the cross embrace a world immersed in injustice. So we can celebrate together what we saw earlier: his question to us is not, "Are you good enough to get into my kingdom?" but rather, "Will you let me heal you?"

"Jesus is the Servant at the center of the world. To love Jesus is to give our lives away sacrificially for the flourishing of his world. As the crucified King, Jesus wants to form those of us who follow him into a community of love and justice. A people who fall in love with the world he loves and in the process, become dramatically enraged alongside him at the injustices that afflict it. To become a community of love that gives rise to justice.

"A community of the crucified King."

SERIES: The Story Begins (Gospel Project)

SERMON 3: "Human Rebellion"

TEXT: Genesis 3:1-24

DATE: September 24/25, 2016

A Short Introduction to "Sin"

- Sin is cosmic _____.
- We are not just _____ of sin; we are _____ of sin.
- Sin is not just an action; sin is a _____.

What's So Bad About Sin?

1. Sin _____ the goodness of God.

Themes from the larger story:

- The _____ of God
- F_____
- A cosmic _____ leader
- H_____ fickleness, faithlessness, brutality, irrationality, and self-destructiveness

Genesis 3 introduces us not only to where all the problems started but also to why they started and why our problems continue to dog us—we _____ God's goodness. We don't _____ God.

Faith is not first and foremost about believing certain propositions or creeds. We believe certain propositions or creeds because they are based on the Word of our God and he is good.

- There are certain things I believe from God's Word because they are from God's Word even though it may not, at the time, _____ to me.
- Every time I sin, without exception, I display a lack of _____ because I would never eat from a poison tree unless I was convinced it was going to taste really good and that I'd survive it.

Distrusting the one who _____ us is self-destructive.

2. Sin _____ our relationships.

After they sin, they _____ from God and they _____ each other.
God still comes _____ for them.

3. Sin _____ God's good world.
Genesis 2:1-3

Sin _____.

We are not just perpetrators of sin; we are victims of sin.

Sin shatters the world, and it shatters our lives. But God is redeeming us, and he will renew his creation. We come to him shattered and as shatterers, he redeems and restores us through his sacrificial love, and he calls us to love this broken world sacrificially. He calls us to be a community led by a crucified king!

Family Discussion Questions:

1. Why is it important for our family to understand sin as rebellion toward God?
2. How can recognizing sin strengthen our family relationship?
3. How should our family respond to the brokenness caused by sin?

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Read Genesis 3:1-7. What happens when we focus on God's prohibitions more than the freedom he offers?
3. Why should we commit to believe what God says even if, at the time, it doesn't make complete sense to us?
4. Read Genesis 3:8-16. What are the signs that our relationship with God has been broken?
5. What are some of the ways we hide from God, things we invent to cover our sense of shame?
6. Read Genesis 3:17-24. What are your thoughts on the fact that we are both perpetrators and victims of sin?
7. Reflect on Jeremiah's story told in the sermon and the extended Joshua Ryan Butler quote included on the back of this document. What are your thoughts?
8. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus is the Son of Eve who will crush the head of the serpent.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What is sin?