

Activity Sheet, 13 May 2018

Is there life outside?

Genesis 3v20-24; Deuteronomy 30v15-20

- Sin leads to world overshadowed by death, yet life continues
- How does our relationship with God change?

➤ “When Adam and Eve sin the world is totally destroyed.” True or false?

(1) God is still good

- judgement
 - a right response to sin
- grace

The punishment for the crime of attempting to be independent of God is - to be independent of God... [God is saying], “Since you have chosen to be your own god, deciding for yourself what is good and evil, go and learn to look after yourselves in a world where the decisions have not already been made for you, and where you will have to make them for yourselves and pay the price if you make mistakes.” [David Clines, ‘Noah’s Flood: 1: The theology of the flood narrative’, *Faith and Thought* 100 (1972-3), p 135.]

- How did Adam and Eve end up outside Eden? (a) they chose to leave or (b) God drove them out (see v23).
- What are the clothes God provides in v21 made from? (a) fig leaves, (b) animals, (c) sackcloth

(2) We are still outside

- living death
- no way back

- In Israel where did people with infectious skin diseases have to live (e.g. See Leviticus 13v45-46)?
- What is found with God, in his house according to Psalm 36v7-9?

(3) Still two trees

- one or the other
- two ways to live [Jeremiah 17v5-8]
- trust God’s word

- When God barred Adam and Eve from the tree of life was he (a) protecting them, or (b) judging them?
- Which promise from God must Adam have believed when he named Eve (v20)?
- Who gives access to the tree of life (Revelation 2v7) and what does it do (Revelation 22v2)?

Questions for discussion:

1. Why is the presence of suffering, disease and death in the world today not a reason to question God’s goodness?
2. “Why doesn’t God do something about...?” When people make this objection what are they wanting God to do? Why is God’s judgement good?
3. Why is sin bad news if you have the fear of missing out (FOMO)?
4. In what ways do people think that they can get back into paradise? Why do they keep trying?
5. Why is it not possible to eat from both trees in the garden?
6. How is the choice presented in Deuteronomy 30v15-20 similar to that Adam and Eve faced in Eden?