

GENESIS: REAL GOD PART 1: REAL BEGINNINGS
THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT, GENESIS 3:1–13

NOTES

- I. REAL PRESENCE AND POWER OF EVIL
- II. GREATER PRESENCE AND POWER OF GOOD

Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study

For Starters: What are some current, popular views on evil, demonic powers, the reality of Satan, and a literal hell? What are your opinions on the above and how were they formed?

The Basics: Read Genesis 3:1–13. What stands out to you and why? What are some key words or phrases? What is unusual or unique, clear or confusing? Discuss.

Quick-Fire Round

1. What is so crucial about the events of Genesis 3, known as the fall of humanity? Would the Bible be different if these events never happened? Discuss.
2. Read the following Scriptures and discuss Satan's many names and disguises (Job 1:6, Isaiah 14:12–15, Ezekiel 28:14, Matthew 4:1–3, 12:24, 13:19, 39, John 8:44, 14:30, 2 Corinthians 4:4, 11:14, Ephesians 2:2, 1 Peter 5:8, Revelation 9:11, 12:9). What kind of power does he have and how can we either ignore him or give him too much credit?
3. In Genesis 3, what tactics does Satan employ to tempt Eve? How does he try to defame God's character? Read James 1:13–15 and 1 Corinthians 10:13. How can you recognize and be aware of similar temptation tactics in your life?
4. What were Eve's fatal mistakes and how could they have been avoided? Read and discuss Psalm 119:105, 2 Peter 3:18, 2 Timothy 3:16–17, Hebrews 4:12, James 4:7, 1 John 4:6–7, and Romans 12:1–2. Now relate these verses to your life and circumstances.
5. Despite the introduction of evil, sin, and suffering into the narrative, where do you see God's presence and power in the story? Read Romans 5:12–21. How is the fall more about but the compassion and grace of God? How is this *good news* for us?

Community Group Word-based Prayer: Read Luke 22:40,46, 1 John 4:4, John 4:8, James 5:16, and Ephesians 6:10–20. Take time to specifically pray for one another—to draw near to God, know God's Word, recognize and run from temptation.

A Closing Prayer: Father God, help me recognize and run from temptation in my life and when I fall and fail, that I would draw close to you and seek your forgiveness and restoration. I know you are for me and not against me. Form your character in me through your Word. Amen.