



Explicit Gospel - Man & The Fall.

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Week Two of our series: *Explicit Gospel - Week of May 5th, 2019*

The word **gospel** is from the Greek word *euaggelion*, which means "**the good news**." The thing about good news is for it to be good news it has to go into bad places. This is a bad news week.

SERMON TEXTS // Genesis 1 & 2

MAIN TEXT: Genesis 1:1-7 English Standard Version

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" ²And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin cloths. (ESV)

Gospel on the Ground: A street-level view of Man:

- 1. We are created beings.** (Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:26) - The whole creation account in Genesis 1 is deliberately structured to reach its apex at the creation of humans.
- 2. We are created in God's image.** (Genesis 1:26-27) - Being made in His image means we are reflection of His character and nature.
- 3. We are created Male and Female.** (Genesis 1:27; Genesis 2:7, 21-23; Psalm 139:13-16) Our God specifically and uniquely made who we are out of His sovereign love as Creator.
- 4. We are created to work.** (Genesis 2:15) - The bible tells us work was a prefall institution. Work, as He intended, reflects the image of God.
- 5. We are created for community.** (Genesis 2:18-25) - God Himself is always in community. He created us out of His own community for the purpose of community.
- 6. We are not as we were created - we are fallen.** (Genesis 3)

Gospel in the Air: A aerial view of The Fall:

- I. DISREGARD** (Genesis 3:1-3) - When we **disregard** God's Word we are led into sin.
- II. DOUBT** (Genesis 3:4-6a) - Whenever we allow ourselves to **doubt** the goodness of God as the Creator, it is a small step toward pursuing self-fulfillment through the creation itself.
- III. DISOBEDIENCE** (Genesis 3:6b-7) - **Disobedience** to God's command does not bring abundant life and greater freedom. Instead, it brings spiritual death and bondage.



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COMMUNITY GROUPS

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Question 1

*What was something you wrote down or a truth that resonated with you from listening to the sermon, looking at the overview, or if you have read the book: *Explicit Gospel*?*

Question 2

We are created beings, made in the image of God - male and female - who are created to work and for community. **How should these five truths impact your day-to-day life? How do these five truths impact your day-to-day life? What role can Psalm 139 play in preaching the gospel to ourselves daily as well as those lost and hurting around us?** Spend some time working through each truth as well as reading Psalm 139 together.

Question 3

Often times when we share the gospel with someone we begin with both God & Creation. At times this can lead to questions about the Garden and the tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil, similar to this:

"Why would God even put the tree in the garden? That would be like turning on the stovetop and leaving it on while telling my kids 'Don't touch that!' That is just bad parenting, right?"

Adam presented a perspective that may help us navigate this type of thinking by stating the possible existence of that specific tree in the Garden was to **"weave into us from day one that obedience to God brings joy, that submission to the commands of God are a good thing. Obedience brings joy."** In thinking about joy in obedience – **what obediences are you currently experiencing the most joy right now in your relationship with Christ?** To counter, **what obediences are you seeing little joy but need to pursue more wholeheartedly in Christ?** Briefly share some of your thoughts – remember we never strive for perfection because Christ is the only perfect one, we strive for progression in being more like Christ everyday.

Question 4

The fall of man came about through a pattern of **disregard, doubt, and disobedience.** **What is one thing you can do right now in your walk to point yourself in the direction of attention, confidence, and obedience?** Share and find someone to hold you accountable this week.