

February 4th

## ADAM'S SIN PRODUCES PASSIVE MEN

*"And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." GENESIS 2:16-17*

*"So 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." GENESIS 3:6*

Whose fault is the first sin in the Garden of Eden? You may have heard or even told jokes about the fall of humanity being the woman's fault. But look again at the details of the Scripture. Who did God give the command to not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? When God gave this command, Eve had not been created yet! What we know is that the serpent went after Eve...and we see that Adam was with her when she ate the fruit!

The answer to the question above is...BOTH! We see in Adam and Eve two sins here. Scripture is clear in 1 Timothy 2:14: *"and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor."* Eve was deceived, but Adam disobeyed God! Why didn't Adam say anything to stop Eve? We can't read Adam's mind here and God doesn't give us any clues. What does God want to teach you as a man in this passage?

I suggest here that Adam was passive in his role of leading his wife. Even though we don't get inside Adam's head to see what he was thinking, we do know that Adam was with Eve when she sinned against God and he also ate the same fruit. Wow—this can be a mirror to our own lives in how we interact with our world! We are more like Adam that we would like to admit. Husbands, have you been passive in leading your wives to Jesus? Have you been passive in discipling your children? If we're honest with ourselves, we can all say "yes" to these questions. Our normal routine of work, sleep, play can crowd out what's most important—leading our families in what it means to follow Christ. Think about it, one of Snyder County's most valued character qualities is hard work. We work hard to provide for our families. But what about hard work in our homes? If someone followed you at home, would there be evidence that you follow Christ and lead your family to follow Christ?

God gives us hope even when we see the death and ashes of sin in the Garden. He gives us hope even as we can see that we have failed to lead our families. He promises a Rescuer that will crush the work of Satan! Jesus is the second Adam. What Adam failed to do, Jesus does! He gives us the model and the strength for discipling our families. There's no better way to close this day's devotion than to let God speak again from Ephesians 5: *"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself."*

***Take this moment to confess to God how you may have been passive in your leadership at home. Ask Him to help you have wisdom to disciple wisely.***

For Further Reading: Genesis 3:1-19