

PEOPLE LIKE US

June 7
Cain

Scripture

Genesis 4:1-16

- Have you ever had a time where someone corrected you and your first reaction was defensiveness instead of listening?
 - What made it hard to receive?

Diving IN

- In this vignette, Cain and Abel both bring offerings to the Lord, but God responds differently to them. What differences do you notice between Cain's offering and Abel's?
 - What might those details reveal about their hearts?
- God asks Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?" What does this show about God's posture toward Cain before Cain murders Abel?
 - What is God doing? How is He doing it?
- In *Genesis 4:7*, God says sin is "crouching at your door" and "desires to have you." What picture does that give us of sin?
 - Why is it dangerous to treat sin casually?
- When God asks about Abel, what does Cain's response to reveal about responsibility, honesty, and love for others?

Living It OUT

- Where are you most tempted to approach God on your own terms instead of His?
- Is it easier for you to lean on good morals, a clear conscience, sincerity, theology, religious routines, selective obedience, or something else?
- How do you usually respond when God's Word exposes something in you?
 - What would it look like to pause and listen instead of defend yourself?
- Cain's sin affected not only him, but his family line and legacy. What patterns do you want to stop passing on?

- What kind of spiritual legacy do you want to build instead?
- God warned Cain before his sin overtook him. What warnings might God be giving you right now?
 - How is he showing you those? (Ideas could be Scripture, conviction, wise counsel, circumstances, etc.)
 - How can this group help you respond before sin gains more ground?
- The story of Cain exposes the depth of humanity's issues—it also points us to our need for Jesus. How does the finished sacrifice of Christ change the way we come to God?
 - How does it free us from pretending, bargaining, or trying to prove ourselves?

Lifting it UP

- Praise God for His holiness, patience, justice, and mercy.
- Pray for faith that trusts God enough to do what He says.
- Thank Jesus for being the true and final sacrifice who makes us acceptable to God.