



THE BOOK OF GENESIS

IN THE BEGINNING...

Bible study for the week starting October 1, 2023

SHARE

The message notes from Sunday say, “Cain had a bad story.” Think for a moment about other characters in the Bible and consider their story. How do some of the events in their lives work to connect them with God? How do these compare to the events in Cain’s story? What events in your own life were instrumental in bringing you into contact with God?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read out loud Genesis 4:1-5. What clues do you see in the text that help us to understand the differences God saw between the offerings of the two brothers?
2. Look at God’s words to Cain in Genesis 4:6-7. How might we apply them to ourselves today? In what or to whom is God telling Cain to do well?
3. One of Cain’s oft-quoted responses to God is, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” Look up Psalm 121:3-5 and Isaiah 27:2-3. In light of these verses, how might Cain’s response be an accusation of blame? Discuss situations where either you or someone you know may have felt like blaming God. What problems does blaming God reveal? What benefits might accrue from blaming God?
4. What do you think is God’s answer to Cain’s question? What makes you think this?
5. How might the last sentence of Genesis 4 be a resource to “do well”?

PRAY

Spend a few moments calling on the name of the Lord for a situation that a brother or sister in Christ is facing. End by praying the blessing in Numbers 6:24-26 over each other.



“Raising Cain”

Genesis 4

October 1, 2023 – Pastor Marvin St. Pierre

Cain had a **BAD** story.

If only I _____, everything would be fine.

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a **BROKEN** and **CONTRITE** heart, O God, You will not despise.” *Psalms 51:17*

3 possible responses to God’s bid for relationship

- Turn **AGAINST** “Am I my brother’s keeper?”
- Turn **AWAY** “Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord . . .”
- Turn **TOWARD** “Hosanna!”

“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.” *John 11:25*

For next week, read Genesis 5