

**Peoples Church Small Group Questions**  
**Happy Mother's Day!**  
**Pastor Dale Oquist**  
**May 14, 2017**

**Looking Back:** Genesis 2:7-25

Adam had no helper suitable for him until Eve was created. Adam realized that Eve came from his flesh, unlike all the other created beings. Eve, the mother of us all, had everything! She had a loving relationship with God, a husband that adored her, a perfect environment, and no one to compare herself to (that would cause her any feelings of inferiority). Yet, she reached for the forbidden fruit. Satan lied to her that her life was incomplete, hinting to her that “real life” is outside the plan and will of God.

1. Do you feel, deep down, that God is “holding out” on you? Where has He shortchanged you?

**Digging Deeper:** Genesis 3:1-7

Satan was crafty (verse 1.) He attacked the credibility of God's character and God's Word. God gave great freedom to Adam and Eve (2:16) to eat from all the trees of the Garden; He only restricted them from eating the fruit of the one tree. God was saying to them, “Trust Me on this one!” Satan, conversely, was deceiving Eve by saying that God was limiting their freedom, holding out on them. Eve then saw the forbidden fruit; the word “saw” is the Hebrew word ‘ra’ah’, meaning to inspect, consider and perceive (the same word is used of King David when he saw Bathsheba). This was not a casual glance on Eve's part and the longer she looked, the more she wanted to possess “it.”

2. What is the “it” that so easily seizes your attention; that takes your eyes off God?

**Taking It Home:**

The “it” that we possess will always disappoint us. We may have a momentary thrill of conquest, but we discover that the “it” was falsely advertised. We will be disappointed because only God can satisfy our deepest longings. The lessons to be learned:

- A. Contentment—appreciate what you do have.
- B. God is good, all the time.
- C. God doesn't want to take the joy out of our lives; He wants to take the sting out of life!

Good parents don't give their children everything they want, for ease never produces strength. God gives us consequences for our disobedience, which is not the same as punishment. Eve's disobedience led to death to herself, death to God, death to her husband and others, and death to her environment. God gives us the same consequences for our disobedience, but thanks be to God that Jesus restores us to life in all these areas as we receive Him into our lives!

3. How can you express to God your contentment?
4. Do you really believe that God is good, all the time? What happens to you if you stop believing that?
5. Have you come to God through Jesus to remove the consequences of sin over your life?