

Introduction

(Watch Video)

Open it up to the group to see if anyone has any thoughts they want to share about what was discussed in the video.

Read

(Leader will read this text out loud asking people to listen and see what stands out or speaks to them)

Genesis 3:1–5 (ESV)

3 Now 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?’”² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,³ but 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.’”⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Ask the group what stood out to them in the text.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever had a relationship, like Michael Phelps' relationship with his coach, where the person didn't change but your interpretation of them did? Explain.
2. When you read Genesis 3:1-5 what stands out to you about the way the serpent speaks to Eve.
3. Can you think of a season when pain, delay, or disappointment caused you to reinterpret God's intentions?

4. Which of these lies do you find most relatable right now: “God is restricting you”, “God is withholding”, or “If God were good, this wouldn’t be happening”?
5. Why do you think we are so quick to doubt or forget God’s goodness?
6. What would trusting God’s goodness look like in one area of your life where suspicion has crept in?

Closing

This week the challenge isn’t to fix your circumstances but to examine the lens that you are interpreting it with. Before you assume God is withholding, ask yourself: “Am I interpreting this through trust, or through suspicion?” Because God’s goodness hasn’t changed but how we see Him might have