



# Welcome!

**SERIES: PLOT TWIST**

*Today's Message: Cain Wasn't Abel*  
**Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor**

**PRAYER:** History is your story. You own the beginning, and you will determine the end. We thank you that we have a sentence in your story, a paragraph on your page, and a chapter in your book. Enable us now to trust you despite the twists and turns in the plot. We affirm that the story will work out for our good and your glory. Have your way in our lives. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

**ICEBREAKER:** What is your favorite movie of 2021? What did you enjoy about it?

**INTRODUCTION:** In one of the first stories of scripture, we are introduced to two brothers: Cain and Abel. Their story, which should have been tremendous, quickly turned tragic. Anger, unmanaged and uncontained morphed into murder. In short, Cain wasn't ABLE to master the mindset that subtly and sinisterly overtook him. Our expectation is a penalty levied upon Cain, but there's a plot twist that only the grace of God can provide.

**SCRIPTURE:** Read Genesis 4:1-10 (NIV)

## **DISCUSSION:**

1. What stood out in today's message? What's one thing you learned? What questions came to mind as you listened to the message today?
2. The conflict in this story centers on God's response to the worship of the two brothers. Many judge the spirituality of worship on the basis of their experience. Is this valid in your view? What do you believe is the basis for worship that pleases God?
3. Both Cain and Abel made sacrifices to God, but God was only pleased with Abel's sacrifice. Why do you think Abel's sacrifice pleased God? It's ok to speculate because the text does not provide a specific reason.
4. Abel received COMMENDATION from God, but CONDEMNATION from Cain. Which do you believe is more important? Which do you think we seek most of the time? How important is the commendation of others to us on a daily basis? How can we know whether or not what we do and say please God?

**CHALLENGE:** Read Romans 12:1-2. Note all the practical ways we can guard our lives from wrong worship. Commit to putting at least one into action.

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH  
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**SERVE:** Pray over Genesis 4:1-10 this week. **Praise** God for the opportunity to correct whatever is wrong in our lives while we still have a chance. **Listen:** when you are quiet before God, it is amazing how clear things become. **Respond.** Write it down, live it out, give God praise!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at [www.myspbc.org](http://www.myspbc.org). You can also “find, follow and like” our Facebook page at [facebook.com/myspbc](https://facebook.com/myspbc). Turn on your notifications.

**CELEBRATIONS:** Take this time to share praise reports (e.g. answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

**PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER:** Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.

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## We Care!

**NOTICE: PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE GRADUALLY REOPEN OUR CAMPUSES IN THE SAFEST MANNER POSSIBLE.**

As a small group leader, we depend on **you** to show members that we care. Here's a list of resources to help you.

### FOR PRAYER:

CALL: 804.463.2472

EMAIL: [prayer@myspbc.org](mailto:prayer@myspbc.org).

### FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: [Barnabas@myspbc.org](mailto:Barnabas@myspbc.org)

### TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies)

EMAIL: [ecare@myspbc.org](mailto:ecare@myspbc.org).

### TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call)

EMAIL: [ecare@myspbc.org](mailto:ecare@myspbc.org).

### TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: [Barnabas@myspbc.org](mailto:Barnabas@myspbc.org).

### TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.4000

EMAIL: [emergencyassistance@myspbc.org](mailto:emergencyassistance@myspbc.org).

### TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

EMAIL:

- Imagination (0-10): Vernita Williams ([Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org](mailto:Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org))
- SMB (11-19): Martina Jones-Smith (SMB: [Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org](mailto:Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org))
- Dreamchasers (20-29): UPC: Contact [michelle.townsend@myspbc.org](mailto:michelle.townsend@myspbc.org).
- Aspire (30-39): Lance Watson, Jr. ([lance.watsonjr@myspbc.org](mailto:lance.watsonjr@myspbc.org))
- Fusion (40-49): Michelle Townsend ([michelle.townsend@myspbc.org](mailto:michelle.townsend@myspbc.org))
- Encore (50-59): Jamie Duncan ([Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org](mailto:Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org))
- Prime Time (60-69): Maceo Freeman ([maceo.freeman@myspbc.org](mailto:maceo.freeman@myspbc.org))
- Refiners (70+): UPC: Contact [maceo.freeman@myspbc.org](mailto:maceo.freeman@myspbc.org).

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*GPS is a study guide based on the weekend message. The purpose of this guide is to assist small groups in study.  
Previous GPS Guides are available online at [www.myspbc.org](http://www.myspbc.org).*