

Small Group Guide October 10, 2026

Order Out of Chaos: Then East of Eden, New Beginnings

Key Takeaways

<>God's existence is assumed, not argued. <>God creates order. Sin introduces disorder. <>The central problem is listening to the wrong voice. <>The Bible moves from creation to restoration.

Discussion Questions

1. What is one thing from this message — or from your own reading of Genesis 1-6 — that stood out to you or surprised you?
2. Before hearing this message, how did you tend to think about the word "evil"? How does understanding the Hebrew word *ra'* as potentially meaning "unraveling" or "disorder" change or expand your thinking?
3. The message points out that Genesis assumes God's existence rather than arguing for it. Why do you think that matters for how we read the rest of Scripture? How does that assumption shape the way you personally approach the Bible?
4. The message describes a recurring theme throughout Genesis and beyond: characters who listen to the wrong voice. Adam listens to Eve rather than God. Cain listens to his anger. Sarai gives Hagar to Abram. Rebekah tells Jacob to listen to her voice. Can you think of a time in your own life when you listened to a voice other than God's and experienced the consequences of that choice?

5. The serpent did not outright deny God. Instead, it introduced doubt with the question, "Did God really say that?" How do you see that same strategy at work in your own life or in the culture around you today?

6. The message makes this statement: "Your brain can make your voice sound like God's — and it is you convincing you that you are in the right." How do we guard against deceiving ourselves? What role does Scripture play in that process?

7. God warns Cain that sin is crouching at the door, but that he does not have to let it in. What does it look like practically to "master" sin before it masters you? What habits, relationships, or practices help you do that?

8. The message draws a line from the exile of Adam and Eve to the exile of Israel, and then forward to the restoration described in Revelation 21-22. How does seeing the whole Bible as a story of exile and restoration change the way you read individual passages or stories?

9. The message says we are meant to be conduits of God's kindness and justice — caretakers of creation, and of people, including the poor, the orphan, the widow, and the vulnerable. Where do you sense God calling you to take that responsibility more seriously?

10. Psalm 1 describes a person who meditates on God's Torah day and night. What does your current practice of engaging with Scripture look like? Is it consistent enough that you would always recognize God's voice if it came to you?