



CULTIVATING  
YOUR  
PERSONAL  
FIELD

MEG CROSSMAN  
WONDERFUL MERCY CHURCH  
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# CULTIVATE

- To prepare and use soil for growing crops
- To break up the surface soil around plants in order to destroy weeds

# WEEDS OF THE ENEMY

- Our Lord warns us that “the thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.” Jn. 10:10a
- Paul tells us that it is his desire that “no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.” 2 Cor 2:11
- We need to know who our enemy is and how he operates.

# WEEDS OF THE ENEMY

- The enemy and his forces are always bent on our destruction
- They have nothing but evil intent
- Most of all, they have *no new ideas*

# OUR CREATIVE GOD

- He is always doing a “new thing”  
Isaiah 42:9; 43:19
- However, as God’s daughters and sons, we can recognize these stratagems
- We can learn to exercise authority over them

# HOW GOD TAUGHT ME

David dancing before the Ark as he brought it up to Jerusalem (II Sam 6)



# HOW GOD TAUGHT ME

- His wife, Michal, daughter of Saul, despised him and therefore was barren the rest of her life.
- “Lord, what do I despise? What makes me barren?” .

# GOD'S SURPRISING ANSWER

- The Lord answered immediately,  
“Weak Women.”



# GOD'S SURPRISING ANSWER

- That stunned me!
- What had my despising done to me?
- I had let the enemy convince me to be a tough, belligerent, aggressive woman

***This was not pleasing to the LORD***

# **GOD'S SURPRISING ANSWER**

*Most of all,  
That did not lead me  
to being the godly woman  
I wanted to be*

# BACK TO THE GARDEN

- The Lord took me to Gen 3 to study the original wiles of the wicked One
- Satan attacks the goodness and integrity of God
- “Did God *really* say ‘You must not eat from any tree of the Garden?’
- He alters **ever so slightly** the truth of what God said

# BACK TO THE GARDEN

- Eve corrects him, “You must not eat from the tree in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.”
- Look at her response. She added something.
- Can you see why that is dangerous?

# BACK TO THE GARDEN

- Be careful to stay as close as possible to what the Lord has told us. Do not **subtract** from it, but do not **add**.
- The serpent finds his little crack here:  
“You will not surely die! For God knows that in the day that you eat from it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

# LOOK AT ALL THESE LIES:

- You will not surely die
- God knows . . . Your eyes will be opened
- You will be like God
- You will know good and evil

# WHAT IS THE TRUTH?

- ***Eating the fruit would bring death, not life***

They would immediately die spiritually; they would begin to die physically and emotionally

- Man and Woman were **already** like God, having been made in His image
- Knowing good and evil would not benefit them

# WE'VE ALL BEEN TAUGHT THIS

Our culture has taught us  
in a cartoon-like way,  
the idea of **the Imp vs. the Angel.**



# LOOK FAMILIAR?



# OR THIS ONE?



# WE'VE ALL BEEN TAUGHT THIS

Our culture has taught us in a cartoon-like way, the idea of **the Imp vs. the Angel.**

- These differences seem cute and clever.  
**No Way!!**
- **There is nothing cute or clever about sin**

# BACK TO THE GARDEN

In reality, the enemy, as he did with Eve, always gives us

## TWO WRONG CHOICES!

- One may be a choice of “fear”
- The second is often a choice of “independence” or “control”

# WHAT COULD EVE HAVE DONE?

- She could have gone back to exactly what the Lord had said
- They could have waited until they talked to Him again
- They could have stayed with the original plan.
- They could have refused **Both Wrong Choices.** .

# HERE IS THE TRUTH I NEEDED TO SEE

- That's where I had been caught - I needed to refuse to be a 'weak woman' but I also needed to refuse to be a 'tough, belligerent, aggressive woman'
- So now what?

# HOW DO WE USE OUR AUTHORITY?

- A picture of a bowling alley came to me.

I said, “Lord, how can I do this?”



# REBUKE BOTH WRONG CHOICES

- How do I stay “on the alley” and become a godly woman?
- Rebuke both choices
- Release yourself to Me





# HERE IS THE TRUTH IN NUMBERS 13-14

- We find these two wrong choices throughout Scripture.
- Now you can do some of the “digging” to see it in the report of the 12 spies

# THE 12 SPIES RETURN

- What did they bring back? What did the 10 say?  
Num. 13:25-29; 31-33
- What did Joshua and Caleb say?  
Num. 13:30; 14:6-9
- What was the reaction of the people?  
Num. 14:1-4; 10
- What was the sentence of the Lord?  
Num. 14:28-35
- What was the next idea of the people?  
Num. 14: 39-45

# THINK HOW THIS APPLIES TO CULTIVATING

- What if we went down our garden removing weeds only from one side of our plants?



# HERE IS THE TRUTH FOR YOU

- Which ploy does the enemy use on you most often—Fear? Doubt? or Taking Control? Being in Charge?
- Now we understand the enemy's recurrent tactic—AND we know how to deal with it because
  - **He Has No New Ideas!**

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