

CRISIS

What's the Problem?

THE SERPENT (GENESIS 3:1)

Where did sin come from?

Read **Revelation 12:7-9; Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:12-19**

How do you understand the origin of evil?

- The Serpent is Satan, who fell from heaven. Revelation 12:7-9
- Satan's fall began with a prideful desire to be exalted. Isaiah 14:12-14; Ez.28:12-19
- Self-exultation is a departure from other-centered love. Sin is falling out of love.

THE LIES (GENESIS 3:1- 5)

How did sin come to earth?

- Compare what God said (Genesis 2:16-17) and how the serpent misrepresented Him (Genesis 3:1-5).
- *Lies about the Character of God:* God is not love. He is a restrictive, manipulative liar.
- *Lies about the Nature of Man:* You can live apart from love. You will not surely die.

Sin didn't come to humanity without lies, distortions of God's character and man's nature.

How have lies about God and man contributed to your choices for sin?

How might truth about God and man contribute to your victories over sin?

THE FALL (GENESIS 3:6-7)

What is it like to live in this fallen world?

What were the immediate results of eating the fruit (stepping out of the will of God)?

- A broken relationship with God (vv. 8-11)
- A broken relationship with man (vv.12-13)
- A new knowledge (v. 22)
- A new (temporary) home (vv. 23-24)

Sin is a falling out of love! What do you understand to be the condition of the sinful nature?

- Sin is on one end of a continuum as transgression of the law. 1 John 3:4
- Love is on the other end of the continuum as fulfillment of the law. Romans 13:10
- The experience of sin is an experience short of the glory(love) of God. Romans 3:23
- The atmosphere outside of love is death. Romans 6:23

*In reflecting on this study, how might you understand the problem of sin to be **relational** at the core? What does this suggest about God's design for man and His plan for our redemption? How does this offer an explanation of the crisis and problem of the human experience?*