

The Promise

Week 1

Small Groups - Bethany Church Long Beach

Intro:

- Share a time someone made a promise to you and then broke it.
- When you are promised something, what is your expectation and do you trust in the promise? (Give examples)

Group Questions:

1. What did you find most interesting or challenging about the message that began our Christmas series?

Read Genesis 3

2. What did the Serpent and Eve say about God and his commands in verses 1-5 that created confusion and helped lead to Adam and Eve's disobedience?
3. What things did Eve perceive to be desirable in the fruit she was forbidden to eat by God? What connection can be made between desire and disobedience?
4. How did Adam and Eve fail in the garden?
5. Look back and read Genesis 1:28. How does the command to be fruitful and multiply become frustrated by the curse of pain in childbearing? (Genesis 3:16) How does the command to subdue the Earth become frustrated by the ground being cursed? (Genesis 3:17-19)
6. How do we see the effects of the curse (Genesis 3:14-19) played out in our lives today?
7. How are you struggling with the effects of the Fall right now?
8. Sin's temptation affects everyone differently. Maybe you:
 - a. Are frustrated at work that your "ground" isn't producing the way it should despite your "toil."
 - b. Are dominated by physical pain or suffering in your life.

Read and pray Psalm 119:9-16 verse by verse in smaller groups.

Gather and close in prayer as a group.