



May 27-28, 2023

Foundations For Flourishing - Week 2 “A Transformed Mind”

GATHER

- What is something you wish you could experience again for the *first* time? (For example: a book or movie where you don't know how it ends, etc.)
 - As this weekend focused on Scripture, you could also talk about your personal experience with the Bible! Some ideas: What are your first memories of the Bible? Who introduced you to it? What are some of your favourite and/or impactful memories of encountering parts of Scripture for the first time?
- If you were at a weekend service, share your takeaways from the message you heard. What was something the Holy Spirit highlighted for you?

GROW

This weekend's message was launched out of Genesis 3:1-6 and interacted with some other key texts (see below). Talk through the topic more thoroughly as a group using the outline below.

Feel free to select a suggested question or two in each section to guide your conversation.

- ***Understand Their Story***

The Christian worldview holds that the spiritual realm is real and that our “enemy”, Satan, has destructive tactics that interact with God's words. Read Genesis 3:1-6 to discuss this further.

- Compare the serpent's first words here with God's words in Genesis 2:16. What do the serpent's first words do with God's words?
- Compare the serpent's second set of words here with God's words in Genesis 2:17. What does the serpent's second set of words do?
- What do the serpent's tactics tell us about what humanity should do with God's words? What could Adam and Eve have done differently?
- In what ways do you relate to Adam and Eve? Are there things about the Bible that confuse or concern you?

- **Connect To His Story**

- We're aiming to see the importance of God's communication with humanity this week. Compare the lessons from Genesis 3:1-6 with observations from the texts below.
 - Take a look at the parallels of the Genesis story with Luke 4:1-13. Do you see any similarities between what Satan does to Eve and what he does to Jesus?
 - Look up 2 Peter 1:16-21.
 - What experience from Peter's life does he describe? (v.16-18)
 - In light of that experience, what does he say about Scripture? How does that encourage those he's writing to who didn't have the same experience? (v.19-21)
 - These verses reinforce the reality that God speaks. What does God's posture of communication to us tell us about him and what he wants for us? Why does this matter?

GO

- **Apply To Our Story**

We all want to flourish and prosper. Building our lives on God and his word is the best way to get there.

Feel free to select a section or two to use in your group time.

- The Psalms often highlight the importance of the word of God. For example, read Psalm 1 to set you up to answer the next 2 questions about reading the Bible.
 - What posture ought we to have towards the law of the LORD?
 - What does this Psalm indicate happens when we take this posture?
- "Read the Bible daily" might sound simple, but many find it difficult (or not a priority).
 - What makes it challenging to regularly spend time reading the Bible?
 - What is working for you? Share your practices, successes, tips!
- Northview's statement of faith articulates our core beliefs - one of which is about "The Revelation of God". This might be helpful to consult as you think through these next questions.
<https://northview.org/statement-of-faith/>
 - Is there anything you are noticing *in the church* that seems to be moving away or calling this into question? Conversations with people? Social media posts from Christian influences? Trends? Etc.
 - What are the common objections you've encountered when it comes to believing in the authority or credibility of the Bible? Have you found anything helpful in responding to such objections?

Pray!

- Romans 12:1-2 calls us to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. Psalm 119:105 describes God's word as a "lamp for our feet" and a "light for our path". In what ways could these be a prompt for prayer today? Where do you need guidance and transformation of your mind?
- All of our activity is unto God's glory our mission is to help every person become a "deeply rooted follower of Jesus". *We put this in every Community Group guide because we believe it's important: Who are those who don't currently follow Jesus - or are wrestling with the subjects we've looked at this week - that you could pray for by name?*