

## WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////

This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your group.



### FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Who has graciously forgiven you for something you did? Have you had to forgive anyone for wrongdoing against you or your family?
2. Cain and Abel are strongly contrasted in the New Testament. What are some of the elements in Genesis 4 that reveal this contrast?
3. Why did God favor Abel's offering over Cain's offering?
4. How does the text show us that Abel's offering was more intentional than Cain's offering?
5. God told Cain to 'master' sin. How has the power of sin been broken for us? How do we keep away from sin in our own lives?
6. What did we learn about the nature of God's graciousness in His response to Cain? In His response to Adam and Eve?
7. How will you let this story of grace influence your beliefs about God and your approach to extending grace to others?



September 23-24, 2017 | In the Beginning, God | Genesis 4 | Steve Fish

### KEY THOUGHTS FOR THIS SERIES:

1. God is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Gen 1-11 even though He is often forgotten as we talk about the \_\_\_\_\_ incredible events of this section of Scripture.
2. These four events are given as \_\_\_\_\_, and according to other portions of the Bible, they happened just as they are \_\_\_\_\_. We need to determine \_\_\_\_\_ to respond.

### I. THE FIRST FAMILY.

Gen. 4:1 Adam made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, “With the help of the Lord I have brought forth a man.”<sup>2a</sup> Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

- Gen. 4:1 And the man knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and boreth Cain, and saith, ‘I have gotten a man by Jehovah.’ Young’s Literal Translation

### II. SIN DIVIDED TWO BROTHERS.

A. Cain in the New Testament: He is characterized by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

1 John 3:12 Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous.

Jude 11 Woe to them! They have taken the way of Cain; they have rushed for profit into Balaam's error; they have been destroyed in Korah's rebellion.

B. Abel in the New Testament: He is characterized by \_\_\_\_\_.

Hebrews 11:4 *By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.*

Hebrews 12:24 *...to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.*

C. Abel's offering was \_\_\_\_\_; Cain's offering was \_\_\_\_\_. (שענה)

Gen. 4:2b *Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. <sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. <sup>4</sup> And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup> but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor.*

1. "In the course of time. . ." This statement reveals that changes have taken place. An offering to the Lord was \_\_\_\_\_ by the Lord (for all who lived including Adam, Eve, other children?)
2. Cain brought an offering that God did not "accept; pay attention to."

a) In the right context God does accept \_\_\_\_\_ offerings (e.g. Lev. 2:1-3; 14-16).

b) Cain's offering coming from the fruit of all his efforts was not acceptable to satisfy the \_\_\_\_\_ for the gift.

3. Abel's \_\_\_\_\_ offering was accepted. It was a specific sacrifice that foreshadowed the Levitical law.

a) Abel offered \_\_\_\_\_ portions. In latter Levitical law, the aroma given off by the burning of these portions were most favorable to God. (e.g. Lev. 3:3-5; for abuse of see 1 Samuel 2:15-16).

b) Abel's animals were of the \_\_\_\_\_ of his flock.

c) Abel makes a \_\_\_\_\_ sacrifice - "God makes the first sacrifice as blood and death are needed to cover over sin. He restores the relationship!"

Heb. 9:22 *In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.*

4. Cain was \_\_\_\_\_ angry. God \_\_\_\_\_ him with an invitation to reconciliation and acceptance.

Gen. 4:5b *So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. <sup>6</sup> Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? <sup>7</sup> If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."*

### III. God's RESPONSE TO CAIN.

A. \_\_\_\_\_: God responded to the first \_\_\_\_\_ murder.

Gen. 4:8 *Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.*

<sup>9</sup> *Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"*

*"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"*

<sup>10</sup> *The Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup> Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup> When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."*

1. God refers to Abel's \_\_\_\_\_ twice in His judgment of Cain.
2. Man was \_\_\_\_\_ for the first time. Food was given freely in the garden. Adam worked the ground for food. Cain worked the land as Adam had. Cain would be a wanderer searching for food.

B. \_\_\_\_\_: God responded to Cain's \_\_\_\_\_ heart.

Gen. 4:13 *Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is more than I can bear. <sup>14</sup> Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."*

<sup>15</sup> *But the Lord said to him, "Not so; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then the Lord put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. <sup>16</sup> So Cain went out from the Lord's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.*

C. \_\_\_\_\_: God continued Cain's corrupted line. Lamech later corrupted the marriage relationship and he brands his own measure of justice.

Gen. 4:17 *Cain made love to his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch. <sup>18</sup> To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael was the father of Methushael, and Methushael was the father of Lamech.*

<sup>19</sup> *Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah.*

Gen. 4:23 *Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, listen to me; wives of Lamech, hear my words. I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me. <sup>24</sup> If Cain is avenged seven times, then Lamech seventy-seven times."*

D. \_\_\_\_\_: God established a new \_\_\_\_\_ through Seth.

Gen. 4:25 *Adam made love to his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth, saying, "God has granted me another child in place of Abel, since Cain killed him." <sup>26</sup> Seth also had a son, and he named him Enosh. At that time people began to call on the name of the Lord.*

From this point on God no longer abides in the presence of mankind.