



Two Trees, One Choice

Opening Questions:

Do you have a favorite tree? If so, which one? If not, which trees do you like? Why?

Read Genesis 2:8-3:24

What stands out to you most in reading the passage? What questions do you have about the passage?

Before today's message, how did you understand the meaning of the two trees specifically named in Eden: The Tree of Life and the Tree of Good and Evil? How do you understand them now?

In the message, Pastor David said "The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil wasn't about knowing good from evil but about defining what's good and evil. So, the choice to eat from the fruit of that tree was a choice to take God's place, a choice to be our own god."

- In what ways do you think humans clearly try to choose to be their own God?
- In what way do we do it that are less obvious?

In Genesis 3:14-19 God pronounces three different curses.

- How do you understand a curse?
- How do you see these curses playing out in our world today?
- How does understanding sin as a curse over all creation affect our worldview?

Pastor David made the point that Genesis shows us that "Oftentimes the choice we have to make is between what seems good and what God says is good."

- Where do you experience the tension of this choice in your own life?
- How do you know when something that seems good isn't actually good? Give real examples.
- Are there things that seem good to you but the biggest reason you know they are not is because God has said they are bad? What are those things for you?

Application:

While sometimes it isn't clear what the right thing to do always is, a lot of times it's clearer than we want to admit. Is there anytime in your life where you knew there was your way and there was God's way and you tried to make it more complex by choosing your way?

Is there any place in your life right now where you are at a point of decision between your way and God's way? What is it? How can the group pray for you?

Prayer

- Share praises and prayer requests with one another.

Guided prayer: God, put on our hearts the people, situations, and promises that you want us to circle in prayer. Inspire us to keep praying, to help us persist in prayer, and to remember your great love for us as we ask, seek, and knock. Amen.