



TRINITY SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS for February 5, 2023

Series: Out of the Question

Sermon Title: Where is Your Brother?

Pastor: Mike Kenyon

Primary Text: Genesis 4:1-10

Theme/concept

To be human is to care for others. Not only did Cain not care for his brother Abel, his jealousy and anger led to the murder of his brother. The text shows us the consequences of unchecked sin. So, what do we do when sin comes knocking on the door of our hearts? The Bible tells us that sin will either master us or we will master it. Cain knew the right thing to do, but chose to do otherwise. This week we will explore the tactics the enemy uses to tempt us and share practical ways to avoid the sin that so easily entangles us.

Icebreaker (for groups)

Think of a time when a gift you gave was rejected. How did you feel? How did you react?

Reflections on the sermon:

Which points from the sermon resonated most with you?

Scripture Passage: Genesis 4:1-10

Adam lay with 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." 2 Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. 3 In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. 4 But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, 5 but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

6 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? 7 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 master it."

8 Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

9 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

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

10 The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground."

Reviewing the Scripture:

1. According to verse 2, what jobs did Cain and Abel have?
2. According to verses 4, which offering did God accept?
3. Give possible reasons why God would accept the offering in verse 4.
4. According to verse 5, which offering did God reject?
5. Give possible reasons why God would reject the offering in verse 5.
6. In verse 5, how did Cain feel after God's rejection? How did he appear?
7. What 2 questions did God ask Cain in verse 6?
8. What warnings does Gods give Cain in verse 7?

Going Deeper:

1. God speaks to Cain in verses 6 and 7, but we aren't told if Cain replied. What do you think Cain might have said to God in response to these 2 verses?
2. Reread verse 8. Do you think that the murder of Abel was impulsive or premeditated? Give reasons for your response.
3. In verse 9, why does God ask Cain where his brother is? Compare this question to the question God asks Eve in Genesis 3:13. How are they the same? How are they different?
4. Compare Cain's answer in verse 9 to his mom's answer in Genesis 3:13. How are they the same? How are they different?
5. What can we learn from the example of Abel? See verse 4.
6. List at least 3 things we can learn from the example of Cain. Which of these is a struggle for you?

Prayer:

Lord, we praise you for families. We confess that sometimes those closest to us are the most difficult to love and protect. We fall victim to jealousy, envy, and anger. Through your Holy Spirit help us to treasure the people you've placed in our lives, to seek to build them up instead of tearing them down, to rejoice when they rejoice and to weep when they weep. Through your constant help may we bring honor and glory to your holy name. In Jesus name, Amen!