

**2023 Aim Check-in**

- Becoming disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.
  - Creating a community of faith that meaningfully engages our community of residence.
1. In the time since you last met as a H2H group, have you made any movement towards the aims we've set for 2023?
  2. How might we as a H2H group help support or encourage you towards these aims?

**Discussion Questions Set #1**

"Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves." (Genesis 3:1-7)

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil." (Proverbs 3:5-7)

1. Have you ever considered that, at least in part, the serpent's challenge was designed to urge humanity away from remaining led by God? How might considering this as motivation for the serpent's words change the way we read this account in Genesis 3?
2. In sermon, it was suggested that the serpent's words were designed to stir a desire for self-determination of their future in humanity - that the choice before humanity was to submit to being led by God or to take alternate action thinking a better way could be discerned. Why do you think such stirrings are so alluring for humanity? Do you ever feel the allure of self-determination in life?
3. Discuss how a self-determinative understanding of life might lend to sinful actions. How does a "trailblazer" mentality result in sin in our world?
4. Where do you see messages contrary to Proverbs 3:5-7 in our world?

**Discussion Questions Set #2**

"I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?" (Romans 7:15-24)

"For just as through the disobedience of the one man [Adam] the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man [Jesus] the many will be made righteous" (Romans 5:19).

1. The above passage from Romans 7 reveals quite well the struggle that many Christians have in being led by Christ. They desire to be so led, but repeatedly find themselves wresting directive control from God. How real a struggle is this in your life right now? Do you ever sense a war being waged internally? What do you do when you sense this? How might your H2H group become a resources for you in this?
2. Discuss the significance of Romans 5:19. What does it mean to you that through the obedience of Christ many were made righteous?