



# Stuff They Didn't Teach Me In Sunday School



## Episode 002- The Fall:

Genesis 3:1-15

Have you ever watched someone do something dangerous without realizing the peril they were putting themselves in? Adam stood watching his lovely wife become completely caught up in Satan's deception. If Adam had stepped forward and tried to warn Eve, she might well have answered him, "How can something that feels so right be so wrong?"

- Describe a temptation that has completely swept away someone you know.
- If you were able to see the danger, did you try to help open his/her eyes? How?

The apostle Paul wrote, "Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor" (1 Timothy 2:14). Adam deserved to lose his man card (and in a sense he did)—he knew the serpent was lying, yet he stood by and watched the woman he loved walk straight into a death trap. He didn't try to warn her or stop her, and he did nothing to protect her. And, as if that wasn't bad enough, against his better knowledge he walked right into it too.

- Why is it so hard to take a step forward to attempt to deter someone from sin?
- Why is it so easy to join friends in behaviors we know are destructive?

In 1 Corinthians 15:21-22 we read, "For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive." The Bible clearly blames Adam for our fall into sin.

- Why does Adam carry more blame for the sin that ruined creation than Eve?
- Who deserves to be punished more severely on Judgment Day—pagans who worshipped other gods or Christians who turned away from Jesus Christ? Why?

The incredible thing is that God was willing to send His Son Jesus to reverse the damage Adam did. He did that by bearing the most severe punishment of all—the punishment for the sum total of all the sins committed by every man, woman and child who ever lived or will ever live on this earth. When Jesus proclaimed, "It is finished" from the cross (John 19:30a) every one of our sins had been paid in full and Satan lay crushed and defeated at His feet.

- How does the severity of Jesus' sufferings show both the full depth of our guilt, and the far deeper love of our God?

Ours is a victim culture. Like Adam, we hesitate to take responsibility for our own stupidity.

- What are some excuses you have heard people use to avoid taking responsibility for their actions?
- What is the crippling harm in always blaming our failings on someone else?

We probably avoid standing up and accepting the blame for fear of the consequences or punishment for our faults. Jesus suffered and died to pay the price for our failings. When we confess our sins to Him without blaming anyone else we are freely and completely forgiven.

- What advantages come to our relationships when we have the guts to stand up and take the blame for our faults?
- What does it mean to you to know Jesus has won forgiveness for all your sins—even those you will commit in the future?