

## Christian Basics Program

### Session 1: The Problem of Sin

Have you ever watched the news or looked around you and asked yourself the question, “What is wrong with the World?”. Why is there so much pain and devastation everywhere?

#### 1. The world God made was good

In the first book of the Bible we read that God created the universe, the world and human beings.

**Read:** Genesis 1:31

Considering that the World was very good when God created it, and it now has a lot about it that is not very good, something went wrong.

#### 2. What went wrong?

The problem started in Heaven where God has always existed. Before God created the earth, He created beings called angels. One of those angels, became proud and wanted to overthrow God. He became known as the dragon and had the support of some of the angels in heaven. The angels of God led in battle by the angel Michael, fought against and defeated the dragon and all of the angels that followed him. When they were defeated, they were cast from heaven to earth.

**Read:** Rev 12:7-9

In Genesis 2, we discover that God put the first humans Adam and Eve in a garden called the Garden of Eden and He asked them to obey one key instruction.

**Read:** Genesis 2:15-17

In Genesis 3, we discover that the serpent (Satan in disguise) comes to tempt Adam and Eve to disobey God’s command.

**Read:** Genesis 3:1-6

#### 3. The Consequences

In chapter 3 of Genesis, we also discover that pain, suffering and death entered the world as a result of Adam and Eve giving into the temptation of the serpent rather than obeying God (Genesis 3:14-19). Disobedience to God’s commands is commonly known as sin and it not only causes suffering and pain on earth but also separates us from God our Creator. Sin is not necessarily just about our disobedient actions, but the posture of

rebellion in our hearts towards God.

The Bible teaches us that every human being has the problem of being sinful as we see in the following words.

**Read :** Romans 3:23; Psalm 14:1-3

(See also: Psalm 51:3-5)

The Bible also teaches that human sinfulness leads to so many of the problems in our world and ultimately to death:

**Read:** James 1:13-15; Romans 5:12

(See also: Romans 6:23)

Ultimately the worst death that sin causes is eternal separation in our relationship with God because God is holy and cannot tolerate sin in His presence.

**Read:** Habakkuk 1:13, Psalm 5:4-6

#### **4. But God...**

However, we also learn in the Bible that God deeply loves every human being and wants to be in eternal relationship with them:

**Read:** Isaiah 54:10, Lamentations 3:22-23

(See also: 2 Peter 3:9)

God had a huge problem in the sense that He loves every human being, but because every human being is sinful, we cannot be in eternal relationship with the God of the universe who is holy (meaning that He is completely pure and there is no darkness or evil in Him).

#### **5. The Solution**

The good news is that God, out of His deep love for us, has provided a solution to the problem and consequences of sin in the person and work of His Son, Jesus Christ.

**Read:** John 3:16

#### **Looking Forward:**

In the last verse we looked at, John shares that anyone who believes in God's one and only Son who is Jesus, will have eternal life in the presence of God. In the next sessions we will

be learning more about who Jesus is and how He is the solution to the problem of our sinfulness.