



# BIBLE STUDY

## MAJOR CHARACTERS OF THE BIBLE



<https://campus.cru.org/college/bsu/community-group-material/>

# BIBLE STUDY NORMS

## MAJOR CHARACTERS IN THE BIBLE

### LEADER NORMS

*Take some time to read over these on your own.*

- \* Please prepare and look over the material for the week. We designed this study to be very user-friendly, but it is your responsibility to come prepared each week and best tailor this study to your group's needs.
- \* Please look over the questions and answers we have prepared for you. Feel free to add or take away questions as you see fit to best meet the needs of your group.
- \* Foster a group that asks questions and leads discussion themselves (Est. at the beginning of the semester).

### GROUP NORMS

*Take some time to read over these with your group.*

- \* Value the contribution and voice of all group members
- \* Give people time to respond, silence is okay.
- \* Challenge people in their thinking. Ask questions like "What led you to that answer?" or "Where did you find that in the passage?"
- \* Respond to distracting comments by asking, "Where is that found in this passage?"
- \* Lean into the fact that we are an interdominational movement and learn from one another's different theological backgrounds. Please respect and honor those in your group that might think differently than you.

# MAJOR CHARACTERS OF THE BIBLE

## STUDY MODEL

### OVERVIEW

01

*This section will provide you with a general overview of the characters we will be looking at in the study. It will also provide you with some vocabulary words for your group and the first set of questions to help you gauge your groups understanding beforehand.*

### VIDEO

02

*This section will provide you with a video that discusses the characters and section of the Bible we will be in. It will also be the section where you pray to start the study.*

### PASSAGE & DISCUSSION

03

*In this section you will find the passage that we will be reading as well as the launch question and some understanding questions for your group. It will also provide the supportive New Testament text with questions for the group.*

### QUESTIONS

04

*This is where you will have all of your questions.*

### ANSWERS

05

*This is where you will have all the answers to the questions. Question number and answer number will correpsond.*

### NEXT STEPS

06

*This section will provide you with some additional resources and will encourage you to gauge your groups understanding of the discussion you just had.*

WEEK  01

# ADAM & EVE

# ADAM & EVE

## OVERVIEW

01

### WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

**GENESIS 2:4-3:24** - *Our Federal Head & The Mother of All Living*

“Adam and Eve were the first human beings on the planet. In Genesis, we are told God “formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.” (Genesis 2:7). This man, called Adam, was the first human being. But God did not create Adam to be alone. We read further along,

“But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man . . . . The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.” (Genesis 2:20-22, 3:20)

In the plain reading of Genesis 1-3, we learn that God created the first two people: Adam and Eve. They were placed in the Garden of Eden and given everything they needed: food, work, companionship, and fellowship with God as they walked with him in the cool of the day (Genesis 3:8). It was perfect—almost.” -Answers In Genesis

### GROUP CONTEXT QUESTIONS: (~5 MIN)

*Who, What, Where, When, Why and How?*

**Who:** are Adam and Eve?

**What:** did Adam and Eve do?

**When:** are Adam and Eve in the Bible?

**Where:** are Adam and Eve in the Bible?

**Why:** should we know about Adam and Eve?

**How:** do they impact us?

### VOCABULARY WORDS:

- “Federal Head”
  - A representative figure that acts on behalf of a larger group
- “Mother of All Living”
  - The name Adam gives to Eve, meaning she is the source of all physical life on earth and the beginning of human history and lineage.

### WHEN AND WHERE

- When asking when and where are Adam and Eve in the Bible, make sure to cover setting as well as book and chapters of the Bible. Who came before and after them? What else was going on in the world?

# ADAM & EVE

## VIDEO

02

### WATCH THESE VIDEOS WITH YOUR GROUP

*Watch the video through*

- \* This video discusses more than Adam and Eve but watching the whole thing through will help your group better understand future characters and events that studies will cover.
- \* Allow your group to discuss what they think about the video if you think that would be beneficial.
- \* [Video Link Here](#)



[Watch video on YouTube](#)

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### PRAY FOR TONIGHTS STUDY

*Ask someone in the group to pray*

# ADAM & EVE

## PASSAGE & DISCUSSION

03

### LAUNCH QUESTION (~5 MIN)

*Allow your group time to discuss*

- \* What are some different ways to understand the Old Testament through the lens of the New Testament? How comfortable are you with the entire Bible?

### READ THE PASSAGE: (~5 MIN)

*Break up the reading of the passage: Genesis 2:4-3:24*

- \* One person read Genesis 2: 4-24 and another Genesis 3: 1-24
- \* Allow the group time to look back over all that they just read and contemplate what sticks out to them.

### UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS: (~5 MIN)

*What does this passage teach us about:*

- \* God (Father, Son and Spirit)?
- \* The world?
- \* How we relate to God?
- \* How we relate to the world?

### SUPPORTIVE NEW TESTAMENT PASSAGE: (~5-10 MIN)

*Ask the first question then read Romans 5: 12-21*

- \* Does the New Testament say anything about these characters? (Read Romans 5: 12-21)\*
- \* How does this passage connect with a main theme that points me to Christ? (Being in Christ vs. in Adam)
- \* How does this passage aid my understanding of Christ and what he's done? (Christ brought forth grace through righteousness and stamped out death)

# ADAM & EVE

## QUESTIONS

04

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION: (~10-20 MIN)

*Always ask: "What sticks out to you?" to begin a discussion:*

Read Genesis 2: 4-24

- 1 What are some repeated words?
- 2 What role do we see man playing in God's creation?
- 3 What does the tree of life represent?
- 4 Where else in the Bible do we hear of the Tree of Life?
- 5 What is the consequence of eating from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil? What kind of death is this?
- 6 **What gift does God give to Adam?**
- 7 What does Adam's role of naming all animals show us about God's character?
- 8 Is there a helper fit for Adam amongst any of the animals?
- 9 **What distinctive roles do we see Adam and Eve taking up?**
- 10 What do you think about verse 23?
- 11 What do Adam and Eve's unashamedness in verse 24 show about creation?

Read Genesis 3: 1-24

- 12 **What were Adam and Eve's eyes opened to? How did this happen?**
- 13 Why did Adam and Eve hide themselves?
- 14 **What role did both parties play in the sin of eating the forbidden fruit?**
- 15 Why does Satan tempt Eve? What do you think we can learn about specific gender roles, especially in marriage?
- 16 **Why is it called the sin of Adam if Eve was the one that ate of the fruit first?**
- 17 **What does it mean that Adam is our federal head?**
- 18 **What does it mean to be in Adam versus in Christ?**
- 19 How are we to understand Eve as the mother of all living?
- 20 **How does Adam and Eve's covenant relationship point to Christ?**
- 21 How do these passages show us our fallen condition? Where do we see God's grace?

### APPLICATION:

*What does this mean for us?*

- 22 Have you ever found yourself being faced with temptation and not even trying to turn away? What did this do to you?
- 23 How does a proper understanding of these characters impact your view of God, the world and yourself?
- 24 How should we be pursuing to restore God's creation to what it was meant to be?
- 25 How does this passage make you feel about covenant marriage?
- 26 How do you feel when you think of what it means to be made in the image of God?

### QUESTIONS

It is not expected that you go through every single question. Bolded questions are recommended for discussion, but feel free to pick which questions you go through.

### APPLY

You may only choose 1-2 of these based on how long they take. These questions are meant to be open-minded and allow the group to think how this impacts their personal lives. There may not be any direct answers for them.

# ADAM & EVE

## ANSWERS

05

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION ANSWERS:

#### Answers

- 1 Allow the group to discuss
- 2 We were made to be image-bearers and to work the grounds of creation (v.5). We were intended to be in perfect unity with God and His creation as worshipping stewards.
- 3 Eternal Life. A picture that can be related to the eternal life brought forth in Christ.
- 4 Revelation 2:7. It is a symbol of eternal life. When Adam and Eve disobey God, their right to eat of the tree of life is taken away.
- 5 Death. Removal from the garden and separation from God. An immediate spiritual death with a looming physical death following close by.
- 6 A helper fit for him.
- 7 It shows man's God-given responsibility and stewardship within creation.
- 8 No.
- 9 Adam is meant to tend to the labor of the garden and Eve is meant to be a helper.
- 10 Allow the group to discuss.
- 11 This shows us the purity of creation.
- 12 Their eyes were opened to their nakedness when they ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Their awareness of their nakedness shows a loss of purity. [Check out this article.](#)
- 13 The foundation of Adam and Eve's marriage is God, and when that foundation is broken because of their sin, they are both subject to shame and feel need to hide their vulnerable state.
- 14 Eve was deceived by Satan to eat of the fruit. Her being deceived is not met with much push-back. Adam is found to be fairly passive in leading his wife to deny these temptations and denying them himself. Allow group to talk.
- 15 [Read this.](#) Eve was deceived and led to sin, but Adam outright disobeyed the order that God gave him. Eve is meant to be a helper and nurturer of life, yet she is led to the opposite and Adam is to be a steadfast leader and yet blindly gives in to rebellion.
- 16 In Romans 5, sin is pinned to one man, Adam. As the leader of his family, Adam is held responsible for the sin of his family. The command to not eat of the tree was originally given to Adam and there was an expectation from God for Adam to lead his family according to this command.
- 17 As Adam was created as the first of the human race, all others come from his line and are recipients of original sin brought forth by him. As we might inherit our parents hair or eye color, we receive brokenness and separation from God.
- 18 To be in Adam is to be a recipient of sin and separation from God. To be in Christ is to be born again, leaving behind that original state and becoming a recipient of righteousness.
- 19 As Eve brought forth death by sinning, Paul writes that she will be redeemed through childbearing. She is the mother of the line from whom the savior comes.
- 20 The relationship between Adam and Eve mirrors that of Christ and his Church as the Church is His eternal bride.
- 21 This passage shows us the origins of original sin and our depraved state. That depraved state is countered by the first gospel account in Genesis 3:15. We are fallen in our inability to be in perfect unity with God but are given the good news of a coming savior.

### APPLICATION:

*What does this mean for us?*

- \* Allow the group to discuss the answers to these questions (22-26)

# ADAM & EVE

## NEXT STEPS

06

### NEXT WEEK

*Decide as a group about next week*

- \* Should we continue discussion on this passage or move on through the next study?
- \* Do you guys feel confident in your understanding of what was discussed tonight?
- \* Any questions? (Allow anyone to come to you in private if need be)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*What's going on???*

- \* Where is Cru this week?
- \* What are our next upcoming events?
- \* Any other announcements?

### PRAYER

*Break off and pray*

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

*Provide these for your group's further learning*

- \* [What is Typology?](#)
- \* [Answers in Genesis](#)
- \* ["Adam and Eve: A Type of Christ and the Church"](#)
- \* [Tabletalk Magazine - Adam, Our Federal Head](#)
- \* [Our First Federal Head](#)
- \* [Death In Adam, Life in Christ](#)