

Connecting the Sunday Sparkle at Hearsall Baptist with the Daily Dust of Life

Welcome

Share a bad habit you find it hard to get rid of.

Worship

Read **Psalm 32** reverently together.

- What's your favourite verse from this Psalm?
- Are there any verses you find difficult?

Word

Read **Genesis 2: 15 - 17**

*A **myth** in literary terms is not the same as a fiction or a lie. It refers to a story that, whilst perhaps not an account of actual events, carries a message that is profoundly true for all time.*

- How do you feel about calling the story of Adam and Eve in the garden a myth?
- Do you think it's important to read it literally?
- What are the costs of reading it literally?

What deep truth are these three verses conveying to humanity? Come up with your own answer, or adapt one of these:

1. There is very much to enjoy in life, but there are some things we should avoid.
2. The judgment of what is good and evil can only be left to God.
3. Starting to say that one person is good and another person is bad leads to a form of dying.

Read **Genesis 3: 1 - 3**

- Does this passage mention the devil or satan? (Just saying...!)
- What might the serpent represent at the deep level of a person's soul?
- Describe the strategy of the serpent in undermining Eve's trust in God. Do you recognise this from your own experience?
- Eve and Adam eat the fruit, but with what consequences?
- What new understanding did they gain?
- What does nakedness represent here?

- Does this passage teach us anything at all about sex? If so, what?

Response

Meditate on Matthew 4: 1 - 11

- Try to enter the scene in imaginative prayer. What do your various senses notice?
- Write in your journal or discuss with a close friend: What are the temptations you face in your life? Try to be specific and clear.
- With what resource does Jesus counter temptation?
- Do you use this resource? How could you use it more?