

Discussion Questions - 11/5/23

Cain Was A Bad Man! (Not Me) - Genesis 4

Here are three basic questions you can always ask in any bible study:

- What does this text teach us about God?
- What does this text teach us about ourselves?
- If this text is true, what should we do to obey this teaching? This answer ought to be specific, in that it can be clearly measured.

Here are some specific questions about this text:

1. If you were God, how would you have punished Cain?
 - a. Discuss the “fairness” of God’s punishment for Cain.
 - i. In what ways could Cain have returned to God in his many transgressions listed in Genesis 4?
2. Contrary to Cain’s response to God, “Am I my brother’s keeper?”, Jesus’ teaching and scripture tells us we are. Look at Matthew 22: 34-40, 1 John 3:11-15, and 1 John 4:20-21.
 - a. What are some practical and active ways we are to “love” our brother/sister – specifically, how are we to serve as our brother’s/sister’s keeper? How are you doing with this?
3. Sin as explained by Pastor Tim Keller is “*always focusing on yourself, always choosing yourself over God or others, always placing yourself in the center. Always!*”
 - a. Discuss this explanation and talk about how we are supposed to balance doing things for ourselves with this definition of sin.
4. God is a God of second chances. The gospel and how we have been given our salvation by grace is the ultimate example of this.
 - a. What are some ways in your normal, daily life where you have seen God giving you a chance to turn back to Him, and what are examples/stories of how you have done that?