

### **Genesis 3:8-17 (New International Version)**

**8** Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

**9** But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

**10** He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

**11** And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

**12** The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

**13** Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

**14** So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all livestock  
and all wild animals!  
You will crawl on your belly  
and you will eat dust  
all the days of your life.

**15** And I will put enmity  
between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring<sup>[a]</sup> and hers;  
he will crush<sup>[b]</sup> your head,  
and you will strike his heel."

**16** To the woman he said,

"I will make your pains in childbearing very severe;  
with painful labor you will give birth to children.  
Your desire will be for your husband,  
and he will rule over you."

**17** To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,'  
"Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life.

Good Morning First Baptist Members and Friends. On 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday I greeted you in the name of the God **who creates**. On 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday I greeted you in the name of the God **who has a plan**. This morning I greet you in the name of the God **who forgives**.

**Dan 9:9** Yet the Lord our **God** is compassionate and **forgiving**, even though we have rebelled against him.

**Micah 7:**

<sup>18</sup> Who is a God like you,  
who pardons sin and forgives the transgression  
of the remnant of his inheritance?  
You do not stay angry forever  
but delight to show mercy.

<sup>19</sup> You will again have compassion on us;  
you will tread our sins underfoot  
and hurl all our iniquities in into the depths of the sea.

**Psalm 103**

<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Now I don't know about you but I am glad, overjoyed beyond words to know that I serve a God that will forgive my sins. I am so glad that I want to enter His gates with thanksgiving and come before His throne with praise. If you feel like I feel this morning, then I invite you to stand on your feet and praise Him. PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM! Let all the people praise Him.

We are still in Genesis, where we will be until the end of October. So far we have considered the Creation and I worked with the subject

**I SING FOR JOY AT THE WORKS OF YOUR HAND**

The reason I was able to sing for joy was because God is creator, protector, sustainer and planner. After the Creation story of Genesis 1 we considered Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 2 and I said we were:

**MADE TO BE IN A CYCLE OF RELATIONSHIPS**

Our relationship cycle includes relationship with God and with each other. This is not a cycle without direction or rules. We are made in the image of God and so our character while in relationship with God and each other should reflect God. We are called to be light (letting our light shine), called to forgive others and ourselves, and called to love with the love of God. I challenged you last week to:

remain outside of your comfort zone  
find someone who needs to see the image of God  
and show them the image reflected in you

Today our lesson comes from the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Genesis and focuses on the first act of sin and the first act of forgiveness. As this is 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday and our Kingdom Seekers are remaining in worship I pray you will allow me to bring the message at a level and in a way that they might be able to relate and understand. Please pray with me and for me as I work with this theme:

**“MY BAD” WON’T WORK WITH GOD!**

**SHALL WE PRAY!** Father God, you know us for you created us. You know us for you made a way for us to return to you when we sin. You know us and love us in spite of knowing us. It is to you Father that we come this morning. We are looking at that first temptation, that very first sin and we need to hear from you about how to apply the scripture and the story to our lives. Allow us into your presence, allow us to hear from heaven, allow us to learn in order that we might grow and be transformed by your Spirit. Abba, I ask that the words of my mouth bring you glory and that the actions of my feeble body be forgiven. In the name of the One who came that I might have live more abundantly I pray. Amen and Amen.

**“MY BAD” WON’T WORK WITH GOD!**

Sometimes there are words and phrases that become a part of our language and we not only do not know where they came from, we often do not know the original meaning and even worst it may mean different

things to different generations. Such is the case with "my bad". Many researchers agree that "my bad" had its origins in basketball in the 1970-1980's. When a player missed an easy shot, made a bad pass or some other mistake on the court the comment was "my bad", an acknowledgement that a mistake had been made, but not necessarily an apology for the mistake.

Some 30-40 years later "my bad" has become a phrase that is almost mainstream, meaning everyone uses it and often with their own meaning. Kita says "my bad" is a watered down version of "sorry". Bri says it means "sorry" unless you have done something really bad and then you should say "I am sorry". Joycelyn says, "you can't say "my bad" to God, you have to say I am sorry and I need help, a lot of help". Yet with all that said I wonder just how often we say "my bad" to God. In other words, "yeah, I did it and it was wrong, but..."

Listen again to the conversation between God and Adam:

*<sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"*

*<sup>10</sup> He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."*

*<sup>11</sup> And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"*

*<sup>12</sup> The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."*

Questions:

#1 where are you?

#2 who told you that you were naked

#3 did you eat from the tree I commanded you not to eat from?

I wish to argue that each of Adam's responses was a "my bad" response. He did not tell God where he was, he did not tell God who told him he was naked and he did not take responsibility for eating from the tree God had commanded him not to eat from.

But Adam is not alone in his disobedience. Listen to Eve:

<sup>13</sup> *Then the LORD God said to the woman,  
"What is this you have done?"*

*The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."*

That was Eve's version of "my bad". It is not by fault, the serpent tricked me and I ate the fruit.

If we were honest with ourselves we would all have to admit that at some point in our lives we have spoken/thought maybe even prayed our version of "my bad". God has called us to ask us why we did what we did and instead of answering the One who already knows the answer we begin with " You see, what had happen was..." and depending on the circumstances we try to avoid the question, explain away our wrong doing or blame someone else.

But Pastor that was then and this is now we – I hear you. You are sure that you are not going to be confused by a talking snake. But that is where you are wrong. Your temptation is going to come wrapped in a package to tempt you.

- My sexual temptations look like Denzel
- My gluttony temptations look like a sale sign at DSW
- My lying temptations look like I am tired/don't want to be bothered

Denzel with DSW coupons and I forget about my husband his wife and I tell myself that if Denzel found me then it must be the hand of God!!

WRONG

You know what your temptations look like Kingdom Seekers

- everybody else is doing it
- I won't get caught just this one time
- he/she said your parents don't know what they are talking about
- if God didn't want me to God will stop me

- if something happens you know I will take care of you

and there are probably many more phrases that I have not heard and don't want to hear.

I am not going to stand here and tell you that you can live a life free from temptation. But I can tell you how to beat some of your temptations.

# 1 Recognize that temptation is a process

- ✓ builds us up before knocking us down
- ✓ plays on our emotions
- ✓ beautiful packaging
- ✓ comes from an enemy pretending to be a friend

# 2 Temptation hits us where we are weak and/or hurting

- ✓ a break-up
- ✓ a family fight
- ✓ money problems
- ✓ feeling alone, different, isolated

# 3 Temptation when accepted has negative consequences

- ✓ separates us from God
- ✓ can begin to control our lives
- ✓ may make other goals difficult to reach
- ✓ may make you believe your own press

If you are aware of how temptation might look, where temptation might attack you and the impact of temptation you may be able to avoid many of them. But if you continue to live there will be a temptation that will

get you. When it does remember "my bad" will not work with God.  
Instead substitute "my bad" with triple A.

**A**cknowledge that you have sinned to God, others and yourself

**A**sk all those involved including God to forgive you of your sin

**A**ccept the forgiveness that God offers to those who love Him and  
seek to do His will.

Remember:

**"MY BAD" WON'T WORK WITH GOD!**