





**SO WHAT? (APPLICATION):**

The current craze over extending the human lifespan is understandable. We know instinctively that the end of our physical existence is a terrifying prospect. But God knows that an infinite extension of life as we now know it, with our bodies in decay and our souls in ruin, would be worse.

So it is with us now as it was with the first pair, Adam and Eve: Just as they needed to trust God about the forbidden fruit (even though they had no context for the words “you shall surely die”), so we must trust that God knows what He’s talking about when He says He wants to give us life in Christ.

- 1. Eve was attracted to the promise of the forbidden fruit** because it looked pleasing to the eye and held the promise of a new level of knowledge. Most of us don’t have enough money (and we have too much common sense) to be attracted to the idea of an unending physical existence. But our culture offers us other attractive shortcuts to a meaningful life. What are some of those shortcuts?
- 2. When we think of everlasting life with God, our imagination can be corrupted by popular images of haloed saints sitting on clouds, swinging their feet and playing harps.** And that sounds boring. But the truth is far greater than we can imagine: once we are finally and forever free from the corrupting influence of sin in both our bodies and our souls, what sort of creativity and productivity could we realize? What sort of person would you be if sin and corruption no longer held your body and mind?

A large rectangular box containing horizontal lines for writing, intended for the reader's response to the discussion questions.