

“Why Did God Let Humans Choose Sin?”



OPEN IT

- When you look at the world, what stands out to you more naturally—its beauty and goodness, or its brokenness and pain? Why?
- Have you ever made a decision you thought would bring freedom or happiness, but later realized it brought hurt instead?

READ IT:

- Genesis 2:9, 15–17
- Genesis 3:1–9
- 1 John 4:16
- Ephesians 1:3–6
- Romans 7:22-23
- John 6:66–69

EXPLORE IT

- In **Genesis 2**, why do you think God gave Adam and Eve both freedom and a boundary?
- The serpent’s temptation in **Genesis 3** focused on trust. How does temptation today still challenge people to question whether God can really be trusted?
- The message defined sin as “turning away from God and making something else ultimate.” How is that definition deeper than simply “breaking rules”?
- What do Adam and Eve’s reactions after sinning—hiding, shame, and fear—teach us about the effects of sin?

- The message said, “The tragedy of sin leads to shame and separation, and God comes near pursuing and seeking to save.” Where do you see that truth throughout the Bible?
- How does the idea of free will help explain the possibility of both real love and real rebellion?
- What stood out to you about the statement: “Genuine love requires genuine freedom”?
- Why do you think people often struggle with unanswered questions like, “Why did God allow sin?”
- **Ephesians 1** emphasizes God’s glory and redemption through Jesus. How does the cross reshape the way we think about suffering, sin, and evil?
- Peter responded to Jesus by saying, “Lord, to whom shall we go?” What does that reveal about faith, trust, and following Jesus even when we do not fully understand everything?

DO IT:

- Spend time this week reading **Genesis 1–2** and **Romans 12** slowly, asking God to shape your understanding of identity and transformation.
- Pray specifically for someone you know who is struggling with identity, confusion, loneliness, or pain . . . that they would experience both truth and the love of Christ.
- Before speaking about controversial topics this week, ask yourself: “Am I communicating both conviction and compassion?”
- Identify one area of your own life where you feel an “inner war” and intentionally surrender that struggle to Jesus in prayer and honesty.
- Practice listening well. If someone shares personal struggles or questions with you, focus first on understanding and caring for them before trying to “win” an argument.