God’s Grace Toward Adam, Eve, and Cain

Offering Grace

● What is something someone has done or could do that would cause you to stop speaking to him or her?

Read aloud the following statement:

“I know you have ________________, but I still believe you are a child of God and that you are worthy of grace.”

● How did it feel saying these words aloud?

● What does it mean to offer grace to someone even when what the person did was wrong?

GENESIS 3:21 (NRSV)

21 And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

4:10-16

10 And the Lord said, “What have you done? Listen; your brother’s blood is crying out to me from the ground!

11 And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand.

12 When you till the ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.”

13 Cain said to the Lord, “My punishment is greater than I can bear!

14 Today you have driven me away from the soil, and I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and anyone who meets me may kill me.”

15 Then the Lord said to him, “Not so! Whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance.” And the Lord put a mark on Cain, so that no one who came upon him would kill him.

16 Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.
KEY VERSE: *The Lord God made the man and his wife leather clothes and dressed them.* — Genesis 3:21 (CEB)

**BROTHERLY LOVE?**

With your class, talk about the following questions:

1. What happens in these verses?
2. What is the central conflict between the brothers?
3. Where is grace and/or forgiveness found in this story?

**MET WITH GRACE**

Use the space below to journal about a time in your life when you messed up and someone extended forgiveness to you or gave you a second chance. (You will not share this story publicly.)

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**A LITTLE MORE**

Pair up with someone in the class. Have one person play the role of God and describe what he or she is thinking about in this situation. The other person will take Cain’s perspective.

- Which role are you playing?  
- As you talk, consider the following questions:  
  a. Does God need/have to forgive Cain?  
  b. Does Cain deserve grace? Do we ever deserve grace?  
  c. Why shouldn’t God protect Cain?
What do you want to say to God/Cain? Write below your feelings, thoughts, and expectations?

_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________

MY BROTHER’S KEEPER
Is there someone you know who is in need of care?

Someone you’re close to: ______________________________
Someone you know a little: ____________________________
Someone you are not close to: __________________________

What is something you can do this week to care for each person you named above?

1. I will ____________________________________________
2. I will ____________________________________________
3. I will ____________________________________________