

the **BIG** Story

FALL

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Things Fall Apart

(Genesis 3.7-24)

Week of February 3rd, 2019

This guide is designed to be used for community group discussions, but can easily be adapted for personal reflection.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Share the following things coming up in the life of the church:

Art Show & Music Series

In January & February, New City has collaborated to organize an art show and music series @ Redtree Art Gallery & Coffee Shop in Oakley. Join us on Friday nights for LIVE MUSIC at 6pm. 2/8 - The W. Montys / Kyle Sweetland; 2/15 - Corey Lozier / Jenny Lehtonen & Jiao Sun; 2/22 - Chris Geer / Danny Capaccio / Adam Smith

Free Sale | Saturday, March 16, 9-12p, 4410 Floral Ave

Please join us for a great opportunity to declutter baby, children, and adult clothes, toys, shoes and accessories and bless others in the community. Everything is FREE! **NEW DROPOFF LOCATION:** Please bring all donations to 4410 Floral Ave. (house next to the church) during Sunday services or Saturday, March 9th 11-2pm.

The City is Shutting Down

For the past 6 years or so we've used The City as our communication hub. The City was sold a while back to a church tech company who has decided to close it down. So we're moving our communication hub. The good news is that *you don't have to DO anything*. Your information is already imported (or should be at least) and are all set to receive emails and texts. You don't have to login or create a password or anything like that. It just works. If you WANT to interact more and get more involved you can set up a login. If you're new (or for some reason aren't getting communication) and would like to be in the loop you can text the keyword *New City* to 84576 to get signed up.

ENGAGE (15-20 minutes)

Real Biblical community involves people "doing life together." As much as we can, we want to create an atmosphere where people get to know one another, and feel comfortable sharing the ups, downs, and in-betweens of life. So take some time for people to get acquainted. A possible icebreaker question: Share a high and a low from the previous week. Or, rate your week 1-10. Or, make up one of your own.

REFLECTION AND STUDY (30-35 MINUTES)

It is hard to find a chapter in the Bible with more relevance than Genesis 3. Here we find the story of how sin entered the world and disordered everything. It offers an explanation of why the world is the way it is. And, as Martyn-Lloyd Jones says, "In addition to being history, it is an actual account of what everyone of us experiences."

Read Genesis 3:7-24

1. How is verse 7 so unexpected in light of Genesis 2.17? How does the rest of chapter 3 shed meaning on the "death" God spoke of in 2.17?
2. Make a list of all the results and consequences you can see of sin in this passage.
3. Why is it so important to remember both the goodness of creation (from Genesis 1-2) and the fallenness of creation (from Genesis 3)? What kinds of problems result when you forget one or the other?
4. In what ways do you see the seeds of grace and redemption in this passage? How does this passage point us to Jesus?
5. How would you explain the main thrust of this passage to a neighbor, coworker or classmate?
6. What did you learn from this passage (and in our discussion) about the nature of sin and its effects that is most significant to you? How can it make a practical difference in the way you live?

PRAYER (15 minutes)

Break into men and women for prayer. Share prayer requests and pray for one another. Pray especially for our battle against sin and temptation. Think about a specific area where you are having trouble resisting sin. Ask for prayer for this.