

Read Genesis 4:8–9. Having been rejected, Cain became jealous and angry, and he murdered Abel in a field. When God confronted Cain, Cain was defensive, condemning himself with his response: “Am I my brother’s guardian?”

Read 1 John 3:11–12. **How does this New Testament description of Cain, along with the story in Genesis 4, reveal the condition of his heart?**

Cain sinned in his anger and turned on the one God had accepted. But vengeance does not lead to justice; rather, it feeds bitterness and self-righteousness. **Think of your own conflict with someone: What could you do to avoid becoming bitter and vengeful toward that person?**

Sin did not end with Adam and Eve—it spread and increased across generations. **What examples in today’s world—your own or even national events—reveal the brokenness that plagues human relationships? What steps can you take to reconcile and heal tensions that are harming your relationships?**

4. Weekly Reading Plan

Genesis is a long book, and we won’t be able to study every verse of it during each of these sessions. This reading plan will help you familiarize yourself with the entirety of the book so that you can dig more deeply into God’s Word. Some weeks will have more reading than others, so feel free to complete the daily readings at a pace that makes the most sense to your group.

Session one covered the first three chapters of Genesis—the story of creation and sin, and the disastrous effects it had on all of creation. The next few chapters, as the days grow more evil, God narrows his focus to a smaller group of people who remain faithful. From them, his plan to redeem all humanity will find fruition.

Day 1: The Creation of Man and Woman (Genesis 1–2)

Day 2: The Fall: Sin Enters the World (Genesis 3)

Day 3: Cain and Abel (Genesis 4)

Day 4: Adam's Family Line (Genesis 5)

Day 5: Evil Dominates the World (Genesis 6:1–8)