



LifeGroup Discussion Questions

World History in a Nutshell, Part 2 | April 2, 2023

Summary

Christians are called to be obedient and righteous like Abel, not rebellious and angry like Cain. Unfortunately, some of Cain's attitude exists in every mind that is not yet perfectly surrendered to God. Thankfully, God has offered His Son as a sacrifice for us. If we accept Christ's sacrifice and repent of our sins, we can please God, and with the help of His Holy Spirit we can live the righteous lives God desires of us.

Scripture

Now Adam had sexual relations with his wife, Eve, and she became pregnant. When she gave birth to Cain, she said, "With the LORD's help, I have produced a man!" Later she gave birth to his brother and named him Abel. When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd, while Cain cultivated the ground. When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the LORD. Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The LORD accepted Abel and his gift, but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected. "Why are you so angry?" the LORD asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected? You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master." One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him. Afterward the LORD asked Cain, "Where is your brother? Where is Abel?" "I don't know," Cain responded. "Am I my brother's guardian?" But the LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground! Genesis 4:1-10 (NLT)

It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith. Hebrews 11:4 (NLT)

Let's Start

Why is anger such a big deal?

Gratitude and Prayer

How did God work in your life since the last time we were together?

Let's Talk

1. Since Genesis is a book of firsts, what firsts do we learn about in the story of Cain and Abel?
2. How do you see Cain's attitude toward God in the gift that he brought?
3. In the sermon, Pastor Dale said, "Cain reminds me of Satan." In what ways are Cain and Satan similar?
4. Why do people give in to anger and hatred?
5. Explain what you think is the difference between responding to God out of love and respect, rather than obligation or selfish pride.
6. Do you ever get angry or frustrated with God? Why?
7. What do you do with the sin in your life?
8. On this Palm Sunday when we think of how Jesus entered Jerusalem to present Himself to the people as their God and King, we are reminded that the same crowd that praised Him turned on Him and condemned Him. Why?

Let's Act

What can you do this week to master, rule over and control the sin in your life?
