



LIFEGROUPS

Series: The Relational Tug of War
Overcoming Hate: Part 1

Scripture:
Genesis 1:26-27; 2:9, 16-17; 3:1-24

Date:
September 16 & 17, 2017

—[LET'S START]—

- Early in Pastor Dale's message he made a very bold statement: "I believe we are all born haters." Even if some aspects of hate may be inflamed by society, to have hate be a part of our very nature means that a radical transformation must take place to remove that hate. Select a partner and discuss what you see as the most significant implications of Dale's statement.

—[LET'S TALK]—

1. Have one person read aloud Genesis 1:26-27. Share with a new partner what your understanding is of being "created in His own image" (the image of God). How does being created in God's image imply freedom, and in what way(s) are we free...or not?
2. As a larger group, discuss what Dale meant as he contrasted "freedom from" vs. "freedom for". What does this indicate about our relationship with God?
3. Have everyone skim over Genesis 3. Notice the deception of Satan as he talks to Eve in vv. 1-5. Satan works to convince Eve that she can evaluate right and wrong just like God and thereby be like God. Satan twisted her knowledge of God and utilized it to turn her against God's Word. How does that sometimes happen today?
4. Look at Genesis 3:12. Who is Adam really blaming for what happened? Why is it hard for us to accept responsibility for having done something wrong?

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- Some experts believe that as humans, we learn how to hate. The Bible teaches us it is in our very nature to hate.
- The origin of hatred goes back to our misuse of our God-given freedom.
 - Humans were created to bear God's likeness.
 - Unlike God, we are not independently free.
- Satan is a deceiver and he lied to Eve by questioning what God said about the tree.
- Satan intimated that God could be known beyond what He has revealed about himself.

—[NOTES]—
