

# Relationships

## (A Mess Worth Making)

desert breeze  
community church



Saturday & Sunday, February 13/14, 2016

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### “Conflict” Genesis 3

Conflict comes much more naturally to us than reconciling. We either fight, flee, or freeze in conflict rather than live as peacemakers. A quick look at our lives and others shows that true biblical peacemaking does not come natural to anyone. We need God’s approach, and it begins with us understanding the gospel--everything Jesus accomplished for us in his life, death, resurrection and ascension and being changed by it. Through the gospel, God fulfills the covenant made with mankind to bring never-ending, unearned love. We rewind the story of conflict and covenant reconciliation back to the book of Genesis. We find that at the root of all horizontal conflict is vertical conflict and the gospel of Jesus is the answer.

#### 1. **The relationships:** (Genesis 1-2)

God gets **as close to us as He can** from the beginning.

#### 2. **The wreckage:** (Gen. 3:1-7; Rom. 5:12)

The first humans become **rebellious idolaters**.

##### a. Unbelief in **God’s character**

LORD = Yahweh

God = Elohim

##### b. Proud rebellion against **God’s word**

##### c. **Idolatry**

The result?

- Guilt v. 7
- Shame v. 8
- Fear v. 9

**The promised Savior:** (Covenant) (Gen. 3: 8-24; 2 Cor. 5:19; Eph. 2:14-17; Luke 5:18-32)

### The Chiastic structure of Gen. 3

#### A. Introduction to sin (3:1-7)

#### B. Confrontation of man (3:8-12)

#### C. Confrontation of woman (3:13)

#### D. Confrontation and promise to the serpent (3:14-15)

#### C1. Promise to the woman (3:16)

#### B1. Promise to the man (3:17-19)

#### A1. Consequences of sin (3:20-24)

- Because we have to have **peace with God** to have true **peace with others** we ultimately **need the gospel**.
- Jesus can and does **forgive sins** ( Luke 5).

### Growing notes:

Think of a relationship that was messy but you got through it and found peace. Was it ultimately worth it? Why or why not?

Review the chiastic structure of Gen. 3. Go through each two part section in the sermon notes in the following order: First go over A, A1 then B, B1, then C, C1, and finally the gospel in point D.

In each part do the following things: First, have someone summarize what each says. Let the rest of the group add what was missed. Then ask these three question

1. Ask the question, “What do you observe in the text?”
2. Ask the question, “What does the text mean?”
3. Ask the questions, “How can I apply this truth into my life? And “Who else should I tell?”

Do you have a relationship right now that needs true biblical peace? Is it with God? How can the truth of the gospel direct you in this situation? Pray.