

Face to Face

with
Eve

First Day

Her Story

“But all of us who are Christians have no veils on our faces, but reflect like mirrors the glory of the Lord. We are transformed in ever-increasing splendor into His own image, and this is the work of the Lord who is the Spirit.” (II Corinthians 3:18 PHILLIPS)

This week we will be looking at the life of Eve. Eve’s may be the most fascinating story of all! Follow the thread: In Eve we have the most breathtaking beginning – the first woman ever made, taken from the rib of man, fashioned by the very hand of God and placed into Paradise where there was no sorrow, fear, doubt, shame or pain. But the promise of the beginning fell short, lost in a moment when the first woman became the first sinner and led her husband to sin bringing death and darkness to her once beautiful world. It seems as if the story would end there, *but God had a plan*. Eve’s sin was covered, her name was given, *mother of all the living*, and the promise was given of One who would eventually redeem the world from the sin, death, and darkness Eve’s sin had brought. We will begin today by looking at what Scripture tells us about Eve. *This is her story*.

Eve’s story covers several chapters of Scripture. Read the following verses and, in a few sentences, summarize the events described there:

Genesis 1:26-28

Genesis 2

Genesis 3

Genesis 4:1-2 and 25-26

What was Eve's *tragedy*? _____

What was her *triumph*? _____

What did she *learn*? _____

Second Day

Her Manner

Who is She?

"...Giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love." (II Peter 1:5-7)

Eve's name means "life-giving" or "mother of all who have life."

Today we will be looking at the *character* of Eve. Consider the Scripture you have read on Eve's life (you may reread the portions that will help you today) and use the following words to describe her:

- *Her strength*

- *Her weakness*

- *Her influence*

- *Her perseverance*

Unfortunately, Eve's life is one that teaches from a negative perspective. We learn from her mistake. Although we can imagine that Eve had many wonderful characteristics, being that she was made perfect and sinless in the beginning, the emphasis of her story will always be that she took of the fruit and ate, bringing misery and suffering not only to herself, but to all mankind.

Look carefully at Genesis 3:1-7 and see if you can identify Eve's downward progression into sin:

- *First Eve...*
- *Next Eve...*
- *Then Eve...*

What did the words of the serpent do to Eve's concept of God? _____

- Describe what you understand to be the *character* of God (give Scripture if you can).
- Describe what you understand to be the *character* of Satan (give Scripture if you can).

Although we realize that Eve probably didn't recognize the devil in disguise, when the character of God came into question she should have immediately *stopped listening*, taken her eyes off the enemy and the forbidden fruit, and turned her eyes and her attention back onto what she knew about her good and loving God. That would have been her salvation – and that is ours. When the enemy begins to bring thoughts that make us doubt the goodness of our God, the minute we recognize what is happening we must *stop listening* to him and turn our thoughts and attention to God, remembering what we know to be true of Him.

How would the instruction found in James 4:7 have helped Eve in her day of temptation?

Does this verse bring you encouragement today? _____

What can you learn from Eve? _____

Third Day

Her Hope

“And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord.” (Luke 1:45 NAS)

Today we will focus in on Eve’s *hope*. From what you have studied about her this week:

What was her *need*? _____

What was her *hope*? _____

What was God’s *promise*? _____

Two of the most amazing and promising words throughout Scripture are the words “*But God.*” And, although we don’t read those exact words in our story this week, they are certainly implied. Eve’s sin brought darkness, sin, and death into a world where there had been only beauty, life and light. Was all lost? It would have been, *but God* had a plan. The first words of His plan were spoken even as the judgment was handed out. To the serpent who was Satan God said, “*And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel*” (Genesis 3:15). And thus we have the first promise of a Savior.

Two more promises of hope came for Eve. Share what you see as her hope from these verses in Genesis 3:

verse 20

verse 21

When Eve sinned, it must have seemed as if all hope was gone. But God judged her sin, and then covered it, and pointed her to the future. The same will always be true for us.

Memory Verse:

Jeremiah 29:11 NASB says, “*For I know the plans that I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.*” This is our memory verse this week – begin memorizing it today!

- Did Eve just fade away after she had sinned? See if you can recognize the difference it made for us that she continued on.

- When you realize you have sinned, repented, and been forgiven by God, what do you need to do and (considering our memory verse) why?

Fourth Day

Her Gifts

When we think of giftedness, Eve does not fit into the usual mold. She was unique and so were her circumstances. No other woman throughout history, or man, for that matter, would ever again inhabit Paradise on earth as God designed it to be. Eve was the last of God's creative works, the culmination of His best; being made after Adam put an honor upon the entire female sex as the glory of man: *"For man is God's glory, made in God's own image, but woman is the glory of man"* (I Corinthians 11:7).

Eve was divinely fashioned, constructed with the greatest possible care, under God's own supervision, and by His own hand. She was formed from material even more precious than that of Adam. Adam was formed from the dust of the earth, but Eve was made of a rib taken from Adam's side – *"Not made out of his head to rule over him; nor out of his feet to be trampled on by him; but out of his side, to be equal with him; under his arm to be protected; and near his heart to be loved."* (Author unknown)

Eve's supreme gift is that God clothed her in pure innocence. Never before had one been swathed in such beautiful and radiant apparel. Inwardly and outwardly she received and reflected the unmarred image of her Maker.

Imagine for a moment if you will, how Eve spent her days in the Garden of Eden. Think about what it would be like to live the *perfect life*, existing from day to day with a pure heart and an innocent mind, walking with God in the beauty of holiness.

Write down a few of the things you think Eve may have thought, felt, or experienced.

Now consider the change brought about when sin entered the picture and Eve succumbed to the serpent's temptation. What thoughts might she have wrestled with as she faced the consequences of her action? _____

According to Genesis 1:21, what is the first thing God did for Adam and Eve after pronouncing judgment upon them? _____

How do you see God's grace in this? _____

Never again till we stand in God's presence will the garments of incomparable splendor and innocence be ours. But we can thank Him that there is a spotless garment with which we can be arrayed: "*I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness*" (Isaiah 61:10).

According to the above verse, in whom should you rejoice and why? _____

In your own words, describe your *robe of righteousness*: _____

Have you thought about your robe of righteousness as God's *gift* to you? His sacrifice for your sin has provided the only *covering* you will ever need to be beautiful in God's eyes!

The Bible teaches that when we become believers, spiritually we "put on Christ." Colossians chapter three reveals the practical ways we are to do this. Read Colossians 3:1-15 and answer the questions that follow.

What has God told you to seek? Why? _____

What has He told you to "put off?" _____

What are some of the things He has told you to "put on?" _____

How can you *keep yourself* clothed in His righteousness? _____

In what way has God spoken to you personally through these verses? _____

Putting on the Lord Jesus is the way God has provided for you to walk with Him in holiness. It is only through the righteousness of Christ that you can exhibit the luster of innocence and the radiance of purity. Will you look to Him today? He is who you need!

Fifth Day

Her Legacy

“For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.” (Romans 15:4)

How will you be remembered? How would you like to be remembered? What will you leave behind of benefit for others? What you do and say today will leave imprints for others to view tomorrow.

Taking a closer look..

- What impression did Eve leave with you this week?

- How might her example impact women in today’s world?

Taking a personal look....

- How are you taking advantage of the *spiritual wardrobe* that is yours for the asking?

- When others look at you what Christ-like qualities do they see adorning your behavior?

Passing it on...

- What lesson from Eve’s life do you consider worth passing on to someone else?

Pray and ask God to bring someone across your path this week who needs to know Him. Be faithful to walk through the open door of opportunity He gives you.

Sixth Day

Your Prayer

Each day this week you have examined up close – face to face – a woman of the Bible: her *story and manner; her promise and hope; her gifts and legacy*. Throughout the process, as you learned about her, you also learned about yourself.

Now the focus shifts to *Your Prayer*. Each week during your group time you will have the opportunity to pray in agreement with the other ladies for the things you write down on this personalized page. Keep an updated account in the *Praise* list each week as God answers your petitions. This year let's come boldly to His throne and learn to pray the **BIG PRAYER** with expectancy! The only prerequisite for such boldness is being *humble* and *real* in His presence.

Prayer: Write out your prayer for each of the following...

I praise God for (an aspect of His marvelous character) _____

I confess to God _____

I thank God for _____

I ask God for _____

Promise: Write out this week's *promise* in the space provided...and learn to pray this promise from Scripture.

Praise: If God has answered a prayer request for you this week or fulfilled a desire of your heart, please write it out and date it as a stone of remembrance.
