

Tuesday, August 17

³ *In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴ and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, ⁵ but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell.*

1. Where do you think Cain and Abel got the idea to bring offerings to God?
2. Why (or how) did Abel bring a more acceptable offering to God? See Hebrews 11:4.
3. What do you think it means that God “had regard” for Abel and his offering, but not for Cain and his offering? Once again, see Hebrews 11:4.
4. What does this tell us about the attitude that should motivate our offerings? See Hebrews 11:6.

KTFK: must show / is best. / be truly / think God / For our / that we / blessed, they / offerings to

You may want to sing: “We Are an Offering”

Prayer: “Father, it is easy to make offerings in any part of life into just a habit – something I don’t really think about, even when I’m doing it. Help me instead to put my mind and heart into what I offer to you. Amen.”

Wednesday, August 18

⁶ *The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”*

1. God says that if Cain does not do well, sin is “crouching at the door.” Does this mean Cain hadn’t sinned already? If not, what does it mean to have sin “crouching at the door”?
2. What does it mean that sin has a “desire” contrary to Cain? In what way is sin like someone with a desire? See Romans 7:11, 21-23.
3. How could Cain be expected to rule over sin?
4. How can we rule over sin? See Romans 8:13, Galatians 5:16.

KTFK: disobey, but / we can / make us / by the / walk a / trip us / godly way. / Sin / Spirit’s power / up and / desires to

You may want to sing: “I Need Thee Every Hour”

Prayer: “Father, guard me from ever thinking that I can defeat temptation and sin by my own strength or intelligence. Make me keenly aware of my need for your power, and make me devoted to prayer and to your Word so that I rely on the Spirit, not myself. Amen.”

Thursday, August 19

⁸ *Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?” ¹⁰ And the LORD said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground. ¹¹ And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.”*

1. How did Cain’s anger lead to murder? See James 1:15, 4:1-2.
2. Why do you think Cain took his anger out on Abel and not on God?
3. What had Abel done to provoke Cain?
4. Might we provoke people to anger for the same reason?

KTFK: get mad / whole-hearted / some folks / each one / even if / God deserves / a fuss. / it makes / worship from / of us, / and cause

You may want to sing: “Above All”

Prayer: “Father, I may face mockery or other kinds of unkind treatment because I worship you and obey your Word. That hurts. But I pray it will matter less and less to me as I grow to love you more and more. Give me strength to be faithful to you always. Amen.”

Friday, August 20

¹³ *Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can bear. ¹⁴ Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.” ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, “Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. ¹⁶ Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.*

1. What do you think Cain's life was like after he left God's presence?
2. The word "Nod" here means "wandering." How does this help answer the previous question?
3. What does this tell us about the result of a life like Cain's? See Proverbs 4:19, Ephesians 4:17-18.
4. Cain had a wife and descendants (Genesis 4:17-22). But Adam and Eve had another son named Seth (Genesis 4:25), who was the ancestor of Noah (Genesis 5:3-28). Only Noah and his family survived the flood God brought on the earth (Genesis 7:7). Why do you think God chose to continue the human race through Seth and not Cain?

Family Worship 2021
August 16-21
Genesis 4:1-16

KTFK: our life's / life at / it's a / Sometimes / all. / without him / call, but / really no / follow God's / challenge to

You may want to sing: "My Life is in You"

Prayer: "Father, when it feels especially hard to follow you, or when I am particularly discouraged, remind me that the life you offer is the only eternal, joyful, and abundant life that there is. Help me not only to love the life you have for me, but to reach out to others to show them how they can have that kind of life, too. Amen."

Saturday, August 21

Read the entire passage again and review the key thoughts from each day. Which did you find most important for you this week?

Kids and Parents: See if you can unscramble the daily **KTFK - Key Thought for Kids** (Answers on back page)

Monday, August 16

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." ² And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground.

1. In what ways did Cain and Abel start life very differently from how Adam and Eve did? See Romans 5:12.
2. How do you think that difference affected this first family even before the events in this week's passage?
3. How does it affect us now?
4. What do you think it was like for Adam and Eve to tell their children about their own story?

KTFK: so we / Adam, we / we live / birth, and / on earth. / even before / will experience / are sinful / Because of / trouble while

You may want to sing: "Nothing but the Blood"

Prayer: "Father, how difficult life in this world can be because of sin – both my own and that of other people. But thank you so much that you made a way for us to ultimately escape sin's grasp by having your Son die for us. Let my gratitude to you never grow dull. Amen."

Aug 16 - Because of / Adam, we / are sinful / even before / birth, and / so we / will experience / trouble while / we live / on earth.
 Aug 17 - For our / offerings to / be truly / blessed, they / must show / that we / think God / is best.
 Aug 18 - Sin / desires to / trip us / up and / make us / disobey, but / by the / Spirit's power / we can / walk a / godly way.
 Aug 19 - God deserves / whole-hearted / worship from / each one / of us, / even if / it makes / some folks / get mad / and cause / a fuss.
 Aug 20 - Sometimes / it's a / challenge to / follow God's / call, but / without him / our life's / really no / life at / all.