

Fruit of Sin
Genesis 4:1-26

How to use this Scripture Engagement



Pray to Begin

Before you start each lesson, ask the Lord to use it to grow you in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.



Read the Bible passage

Invite God to open your eyes and deepen your understanding of His Word as you read the passage.



Study the Scripture Engagement Guide

Go through the Scripture Engagement study provided to reflect on the meaning, context, and personal application of the passage you've read.



Reflect on the Scripture Engagement Questions

After every teaching, consider the Scripture Engagement questions listed for personal reflection and application and for your small group discussions.



Listen to Dr. J. Vernon McGee's Teaching

If you'd like to hear the complete audio teaching on the passage, visit ttb.bible or scan the QR code on the last page to download the THRU the BIBLE app in your own language.



Use our recommended **pause and resume icon**. This will guide you to move through the content thoughtfully and at your own rhythm.

For your consideration

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Fruit of Sin

Dear Heavenly Father,

Like young Samuel, we say: "Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears" (1 Samuel 3:9). Teach us to listen and obey your word. Help us to grow in faith and trust You more. We are here because we long to know You. Speak, Lord. We are listening. We are Yours.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



Faith vs Work



Genesis 4:1-6

"Bring that little blood sacrifice which will point to the Redeemer who is coming into the world. Come on that basis, and don't come by bringing the works of your own hands."

-Dr. J. Vernon McGee



Key Insights

In Genesis 3, we have **the root of sin**; in Genesis 4, **the fruit of sin**.

Cain and Abel came from the same home **but approached God differently**: Cain offered **his own works**, Abel offered **what God required**.

Abel brought **a blood sacrifice in faith**. This pointed forward to Jesus Christ, **the Lamb of God who will redeem us from our sins**.

True worship is not **what we want to give God**, but **what He has asked**.



Spiritual Truths



Cain's offering = man's effort to reach God on man's terms.



Abel's offering = faith in God's word, coming to God on God's terms. (Hebrews 11:4)



Faith vs Works: Cain represents **humanity's perspective**, believing that human nature is **not inherently evil**, and thinking **his relationship with God is right**. Cain **decides** what to bring for the sacrifice. **Abel**, on the other hand, **represents God's way**.



Sinless Substitutionary Atonement: Penalty of sin can be paid by a **sinless substitute**.

Abel's Sacrifice Prefigures Christ

Abel's offering, a blood sacrifice. It was accepted because it was made by faith and in obedience to divine instruction.

“By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice...”
(Hebrews 11:4)

Connection to Christ: This points forward to the necessity of a substitutionary, blood offering - fulfilled ultimately in Christ's atoning death.

Salvation must come through a sacrifice, not man-made religion or works (as represented by Cain's offering).





Reflection

Question 1

When I come to God, do I give what I want to give, or what He asks from me?

Question 2

Am I worshipping God by faith, or relying on my good works and religious activity?

Question 3

In what ways do I see a “Cain-like” approach in my life, trying to earn God’s favour without obedience?



Application

Question 4

What does true surrender in worship look like for me today? Think of a specific way to practice it through confession, praise, or obedience.

Draw your Application



God's Second Chance & Cain's Heart



Genesis 4:6-16



God's Commands - What God Asks Cain to Do

"If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."
(Genesis 4:7)

God gives a clear opportunity to repent and **do what is right**.

Cain's Action

Cain murders Abel. (1 John 3:12, Genesis 4:8)

Cain **showed no respect** for his brother or his God. **He tries to hide** what he did. "Am I my brother's keeper?" - what a rude reply!



God's Judgement - Every Sinner is held accountable

Cain's punishment was **greater than he could bear**. God said, "A **fugitive and a vagabond** you shall be on the earth."
(Genesis 4:12)

God will hold everyone accountable, no one is exempt - "So then each of us shall **give account of himself to God**."
(Romans 14:12)

God's Mercy - Chance for Repentance

And the Lord **set a mark on Cain**, lest **anyone finding him should kill him**. (Genesis 4:15)

Cain **didn't turn to God** and **confess his sin**, nor did he **cast himself upon God's mercy**.





Reflection

Question 1

Are there any sins “lying at the door” of my heart that I need to bring into the light, by confessing it to God and walking in repentance?

Question 2

How can I overcome those sins with the help of God's Spirit and His Word?



Application

Question 3

God is watching us and He will hold us accountable. How does this motivate you to follow His Word and live according to what He says?

Draw your Application



Legacies



Genesis 4:17-26

Cain's Line

Lamech:

Introduced polygamy (married two wives - Adah & Zillah) - leading to moral corruption.

Boasted of murder and claimed greater vengeance than Cain
(Genesis 4:23-24)

Shows increasing arrogance and pride, no fear of God, no repentance

Jabal, Son of Adah:

Father of those who live in tents and raising livestock - early nomadic industry.

Jubal, Brother of Jabal:

Father of music and instruments handling the harp and flute - birth of entertainment and arts culture.



Seth's Line

Seth and Enosh:

"Then men began to call on the name of the Lord".
(Genesis 4:26)

God's Promises - What God Will Do:

After Abel's death, God provides a new line of promise through Seth, a godly line to fulfill His promise in (Genesis 3:15) - Christ, the seed of the woman.



Tubal-Cain, Son of Zillah:

Forger of bronze and iron - first metalworker and craftsman of tools, weapons and infrastructure

Naamah, Sister of Tubal Cain:

Her name means "pleasant". Briefly mentioned in the bible, it symbolised a continuation of Cain's legacy and the prominence of women in early civilization.

Key Takeaways

Civilization progressed materially, but declined morally.

Polygamy is recorded in scripture, but its never approved by God.

Cain's legacy founded industries, but left out God.

Key Takeaways

Calling on God = Restoration of worship and faith in a fallen world

God's redemptive line continues despite man's sin.



"Lamech feels that he will be avenged seventy and sevenfold, but our Lord told Simon Peter that he ought to forgive his enemy that many times."

"

Godly Seed vs Ungodly Seed



Cain and Abel represent Two Spiritual Lines

Cain and Abel **represent two spiritual seeds or two lines** that would continue through history:

Cain's line: Man's way, pride, violence, false religion.

Abel (and later Seth's) line: God's way, faith, obedience - The line through which the Lord Jesus Christ will come.



We are already seeing that there are two lines, two seeds, and they are against each other. The line we are following is the line through Seth, and it is through this line that Christ will ultimately come.

This saying mirrors when God spoke of in Genesis 3:15, **"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."**

It is fulfilled in Christ's victory over sin and Satan. loss of salvation. Noah faced shame, but God's covenant still remained.

Seth as the Appointed Seed Points to Christ

When Abel is murdered, Eve says:

"God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed." (Genesis 4:25)

This is divinely orchestrated to preserve the Messianic line:

Seth's birth continues the godly line that would eventually lead to **the Godly seed**, which is our **Lord Jesus Christ**.

Through Seth, **"men began to call on the name of the Lord"**, restoring worship and aligning **with Christ's mission to reconcile man to God**.



Reflection

Question 1

How can I use my creative skills, practical skills and interpersonal communication skills in a way that honours God rather than glorifies self?

Question 2

How does the culture around me subtly approve things that God does not?

Question 3

What does it mean for me to “call upon the name of the Lord” in my daily life?



Application

Question 4

What is one specific step I can take this week to strengthen my identity as a child of God, through worship, prayer, obedience, or pointing someone to Christ?

[illegible]

Draw your Application



Your Takeaway

Integrating **'God's Intelligence'** in my life.



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