

**About the Series:** The first 11 chapters of Genesis are foundational to the Christian worldview. But when we read accounts that have similarities to myths and works of fiction, it makes one wonder if the Genesis account is really true or not. This series looks into these chapters to see what the Bible actually says and teaches, and explores the relevancy of its message for us today.

#### Part 2

## **A Place Called Eden**

Genesis 2:4-25 | Dr. Stephen G. Tan | Watch▶

### **DISCUSS**

How would you describe the Garden of Eden? What can you learn from how the Bible describes it? Read Genesis 2:4-25.

- 1. Humility should be a primary character trait knowing that God holds our life in His hands (v. 4-6).
  - What are the two components God used to give life to man?
  - What does Genesis 3:19 and Ecclesiastes 3:20 say would happen to your body? If everyone came from the same source and of the same value, how should you treat yourself and others? What makes the aging process scary to most people? What do you look forward to about eternal life regarding your body?
  - What does it convey to you that God has to breathe life into someone for him or her to live? Science cannot fully explain life and how everything is being held together, and simply describes it as a "strong force," but what does Colossians 1:16 say? How should you feel that God holds your life in His hands?

# 2. A loving God's purpose and prohibitions for us are for our good, just like His many other blessings (v. 8-17).

- How did God show His great love and abundant provisions for Adam and Eve? In response, what were they supposed to do?
- What responsibility was given to Adam and what is its purpose?
- What prohibition was given to Adam and Eve in verses 16-17?
- Discuss why people consider their work as a blessing or burden.
  Why does doing something for God's glory give so much fulfillment?
  Share how provisions, restrictions, and storms in life are for your good, for your protection, and for your blessing.

# 3. God's design for marriage is exclusive intimacy between one man and one woman in oneness (v. 18-25).

- What was the purpose of creating Eve? What's the meaning of a "helper" in this context? Does this mean that women in the world are of lesser value than men? Why or why not?
- What is God's intention in marriage? Should having children define a marriage?
- Why should a man leave his parents and be joined to his wife? What does "one flesh" mean?
- What makes sex beautiful and intimate? How is your relationship with your spouse a priority next to your relationship with God?

### **REFLECT**

- 1. How does the character of humility manifest in your life?
- 2. Do you look at God's prohibitions as His loving purpose for your good?
- 3. How do you understand marriage? Is it based on God's design and perspective? Do you live your life in oneness with Christ?

#### PRAY

Heavenly Father, I acknowledge that the world I live in right now is very far from Eden, but thank You that in the New Heaven and New Earth in the future, I will live in a perfect place with You and all Your children. As I wait for that day, help me to be humble before You, to consider trials as blessings because of Your purpose in my life, and to make my relationship with my Savior and Lord Jesus Christ intimate in transparency and trust. Thank You that I can have a taste of Eden today when I live my life as You intended. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.