

Series: GARDENS, SNAKES AND CROSSES

Title: Splitting Adams

Speaker: Bob Marvel

Date: May 12-13, 2018

This week we celebrate how God has been at work in our church. Reminisce about He's been at work in your group and thank Him for those things.

Gardens, Snakes and Crosses is very theological. It takes our thinking up to the 30,000-foot level where we see the end of time and the beginning of human history. In a sense it's how we see God ultimately working all things together for good.

1. Read 1 Corinthians 15:45 and Romans 5:18. It's like there were two plans for God to connect with humanity. The first was through Adam and the second was through Jesus. Where Adam #1 failed, Jesus, Adam # 2, succeeded.
2. Name some of the comparisons and then name the contrasts between the two Adams.
3. How do both Adam's experience separations from God?
4. Do you think it's fair to put the fate of the world in just one person's hands as God did with Adam and then Jesus? Brainstorm about how we use this idea in sharing the good news. Give some modern examples of how one person's actions impact a large group of people.
5. How does the hope that Jesus will make all things new, right, and the way they were meant to be, shape the way we live here and now?
6. Read Colossians 1:15-16,18. From this passage Jehovah's Witnesses and others insist that Jesus was not the eternal God: he's the firstborn meaning he's not eternal. How is Jesus alone the firstborn from the dead? How would you respond to their interpretation?
7. Look at 2 Corinthians 5:17-19. Take some time to pray or the people you would love to see reconciled to God.

Close your time by reading, not necessarily singing this great song.

Reckless Love of God
Bethel Music

Before I spoke a word
You were singing over me
You have been so, so
Good to me
Before I took a breath
You breathed Your life in me
You have been so, so
Kind to me

[Chorus]

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it
I don't deserve it
Still You give yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God

[Verse 2]

When I was your foe, still Your love fought for me
You have been so, so
Good to me
When I felt no worth
You paid it all for me
You have been so, so
Kind to me

[Bridge]

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
No lie You won't tear down
Coming after me