

WALKING IT OUT

WEEK 2: SINFUL HUMANITY

things to think about...

- This week take note of how often you want something someone else has. Also watch for when you feel a strong desire to do something for other's approval.
- Think about your choices... which choices in your life have lead to "death" or separation, and which choices have you made that lead to "life" and relationship? Which of these choices were motivated by "self?"
- How easy is it to do the right thing, even when you know what's right, when you would rather do something else that would benefit you? What would it take to always be motivated by God's plan for our life instead of our own desires and what pleases us in the moment?
- Try and find one tangible thing you could do to bless another person this week. And do one thing that creates or restores beauty into the world. Start with something small, but tell another person what you did.

things to read about...

Genesis chapters 4-9 Read or listen online: <http://bit.ly/gen4-9>

Hebrews 11:4-7 "By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks... By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith."

1 Samuel 16:7 "For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"

Romans 6:23 "The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

God's Covenant with Noah: a sermon by John Piper looking at the story of Noah and how it points forward to Jesus. <http://bit.ly/piper-noah>

Without Faith it Is Impossible to Please God: John Piper unpacks Hebrews 11:4-7 (see above) and examines the nature of faith and why and how it pleases God. <http://bit.ly/piper-abel>

Verses of the Bible to Memorize (they'll help you remember some big ideas from this week's story):

From 1 Samuel 16:7 Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.

From Romans 6:23 The wages of sin is death (memorize the rest of this verse in Week 7)