

Steps to Christ
Chapter 1
God's Love for Us

I. In the Beginning

 **Read Genesis 1:26-31**

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Genesis 1:26-31 is important?
2. The verses above indicate that man and beast were created on the same day. Setting aside the matter of looks, what do you see as the difference between the nature of a monkey and the nature of man? Try to identify at least three fundamental differences.

 **Read Genesis 2:16-17; Revelation 12:9, 14-15; 20:2**

Discussion Question:

3. Discuss some reasons that made the tree of the knowledge of good and evil necessary.

 **Read Genesis 3:1-7**

Discussion Questions:

4. What would be the advantage of Satan using a serpent rather than appearing in person to tempt Eve to disobey God?

5. Discuss what you believe would be the fundamental sin in eating from this tree?
6. What would you say are some of the allurements that Satan uses today to get us to disobey God?

 **Read Genesis 3:8-16**

Discussion Question:

7. These verses describe three things that God did after Adam and Eve sinned that showed that He still loved them. Identify these three things and the significance of each one to our present lives.

II. God Misrepresented

 **Read Genesis 3:3-5**

Discussion Questions:

8. God is rejected, maligned, and abandoned by great numbers of people. Discuss the accusations that some make against God?
9. How might these attitudes reflect the original proposition made by the serpent at the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

10. What kinds of things occur that are seen as being “acts of God”?
11. What do you think are the actual causes of wars and personal tragedy?

III. The Truth About God

Read John 3:16

Discussion Questions:

12. After reading John 3:16, how would you explain to someone what God is like?
13. From the text above, what would you say to a person who believes that God loves only certain people?
14. What would you say to someone who sees God as stern and vengeful?
15. How do you think John 3:16 relates to Genesis 3:8-16?
16. In its broadest sense, what do you think it means to “believe in Jesus”?

17. What do you think is the significance of the word “perish”?
18. John 3:16 is one of the most favorite verses in the Scriptures. Why do you think this is so?

Read John 3:17-18

Discussion Questions:

19. Earlier we mentioned that some have misconceptions about what God is like and suggest that He is harsh and condemning. What would you say to someone who insists that this is true?
20. What do you think it means when it says that a person who doesn’t believe in Jesus condemns himself?
21. In view of the above question, explain who will be the only ones who will be lost?

Note: The sacrifice of Jesus on the cross was not made so that the Heavenly Father would love us. No, “God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son.” John 3:16. The Heavenly Father does not love us because of the sacrifice of Jesus, but He provided Jesus because He loves us. It was through Christ that God poured out His infinite love upon a fallen world. “God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself.” 2 Corinthians 5:19.