

### Cain and Abel: Baby Monster – 1/12/25

#### Opening Question(s):

1. Do you have any experience with sibling rivalry? If so, tell us about it!
2. If you're an only child, what do you think you missed out on by not having a sibling?

#### Simple Sermon Summary:

If you've ever wondered what could happen by simply believing a lie, look no further than the story of Cain and Abel. Theirs is the tragic story of Cain believing a lie that his brother Abel stood in the way of God's favor. The lie grows into hatred and ultimately the first murder in the history of the world.

#### Message Scripture:

Genesis 4v1-16

Exodus 23v19 – fruit/vegetation was an acceptable offering

Hebrews 11v4 – Legacy of Abel

Ephesians 4v26-27 – Lingering anger = satanic foothold

1 John 3v11-12 – Warning about Cain

#### Discussion Questions :

1. What stood out from Sunday's message?
2. If fruit and/or vegetation was an acceptable offering before God (Exodus 23v19; Leviticus 23v9-14), why do you think God did not look on Cain's sacrifice with favor?
3. Do you agree or disagree with the statement, "big terrible deeds are born from teeny tiny seeds"? Why, why not?
4. Has there ever been a situation in your life where you knew something (feeling, relationship, behavior etc.) should be stopped, but you let it continue anyway? If you're comfortable, please share the story – what was the outcome?
5. How did Cain process his emotion in this story? (Genesis 4v5-8)
  - a. Do you see your emotions as a gift or a curse? Why?
  - b. How do you process your emotions? What are healthy and unhealthy ways you express your emotions?
6. Cain murdered his brother Abel, but murder wasn't where this story began – how did circumstances spin out of control so quickly?
7. Have you ever tried to blame someone else for your problems? If so, why?
  - a. What keeps us from asking the question, "How can I take responsibility and learn from this?"
8. Cain was grieved by the severity of the consequences that he received from God, but not for his murderous actions against Cain.
  - a. What does real, genuine repentance look like?
  - b. What's the difference between repentance and remorse?
9. Where, in the story of Cain and Abel, do you see God's grace at work?
10. Cain and Abel's story began with a desire to worship God through offerings, but it ends in murder
  - a. Do you think Cain was just going through the motions of worship, or was it genuine?
  - b. Where/when in your life do you tend to offer God empty worship?
  - c. What changes can/should be made to guard against empty worship in your personal life.