

Study Aids

Discussion Questions and Suggested Readings for “What’s the Message?” Lessons

Lesson Three

Questions:

What is your image of the Garden of Eden?

What were the relationships established during this time in the Garden? Did you see the four duties God gave to Adam and Eve? Look at Gen. 1:28 and Gen. 2:15. Do you understand that these duties have been passed down to us? If so, how well are you fulfilling them? How well do we balance the instruction to “have dominion over the earth” with “dress, till, and keep it”?

Do you also see in these duties a set of instructions about the key to living a God-pleasing life? Have you ever questioned yourself about your purpose in life? Have you ever asked, “why am I here?” Can you think of celebrities who seemed on the outside to “have it all” and yet committed suicide because their life seemed empty and without fulfillment to themselves? What was the one relationship needed that was missing?

What was the first instruction God gave His children (see verse 28 of chapter one)? Is there any mention of an “alternative life style” here? Does this lead you to the conclusion that any attempted alteration of God’s plan regarding our life’s purpose and calling is – in fact – a perversion that will only lead to futility and despair?