

Family Discipleship Resource

October 20-26
(Genesis 4:9-16)



G – Gather for Prayer

Father,

You are Holy and righteous in all ways. I fall incredibly short of your standard. Thank you for the mercy shown me in Jesus Christ.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

R – Read the Text (Genesis 4:9-16)

⁹ Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" And he said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" ¹⁰ He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground. ¹¹ Now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you; you will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth." ¹³ Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is too great to bear! ¹⁴ Behold, You have driven me this day from the face of the ground; and from Your face I will be hidden, and I will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." ¹⁵ So the Lord said to him, "Therefore whoever kills Cain, vengeance will be taken on him sevenfold." And the Lord appointed a sign for Cain, so that no one finding him would slay him. ¹⁶ Then Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

O – Observe what God has said

What punishment is leveraged against Cain? Why would this have been so difficult for him?

What does God provide for Cain? Why does he do it?

W – Work on Application

Though we might scratch our heads in response to what God does here, we ought to sing God's praises, for, we too have been given undeserved graces in spite of our sin. God's mercy has overwhelmed us too in the person of Jesus Christ. Although we have probably suffered the consequences of our actions and the necessary punishments assigned to particular trespasses, we too have been confronted by the unmerited grace of God who looks beyond our failures to our potential in Him to accomplish His will into eternity. For those who cannot believe it, consider this: If God was not done using an unrepentant, complaining murderer, might he not be done using you—someone He sent His own Son to die for? We as God's people must acknowledge our failures AND embrace God's undeserved mercy, for then, and only then, will we be used by Him to share this mercy with the world around us.

What are some of the "new mercies" we receive every morning and how should we leverage them while on mission for the Lord?

As those who have been shown great mercy, how might we extend such for those around us?

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Family Weekly Memory Verse: “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness” (Lamentations 3:22-23)