



AMERICAN SINS

IN ME WE TRUST

IT'S ALL ABOUT ME.

We live in a me-centered culture. Advertising appeals to our self-interests and tells us to be like everyone else. We compare ourselves with one another constantly through Facebook and Instagram, etc. Even in our Christianity, we think the story of the Gospel is all about me.

But this isn't new. It goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden. Man and woman both wanted to look out for #1 and grab for their own happiness apart from God. In the end, both of them blamed someone else for what they did. The man even went so far as to blame God saying, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Fortunately, we can rise above this by following the selfless One who set aside His glory so we could all join in the glory of God.

IN THE BIBLE.

Genesis 3:8-13

8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

11 And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

12 The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Philippians 2:5-11

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

QUESTIONS.

- 1.) How does individualism affect Christianity in your life?
- 2.) What are the benefits of selflessness in the church?
- 3.) What can you do to combat individualism in your spiritual life?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?