**Brother’s Keeper**

Adam and Eve’s disobedience immediately brought sin and death into the world. This once holy family experienced firsthand the pain and suffering their actions caused. They saw how it affected two of their sons. In this lesson, we’ll see how sin left unchecked can cause devastating consequences. Even then, God will relentlessly pursue us, and he teaches us to do the same for each other.

**Genesis 4:1-5**

1. What did Cain and Abel have in common? What distinguished them from each other?
2. Why do you think God looked with favor on Abel’s offering but not on Cain’s? (See 1 John 3:12 and Hebrews 11:4.)

**Genesis 4:6-8**

1. Describe Cain’s initial response to his offering being rejected.
2. What other options did he have both to God and to his brother?
3. Why do you think he reacted the way he did?

**Genesis 4:9-16**

1. How does God demonstrate that he is indeed a God of grace, one that will not choose between justice and mercy but will pursue both?
2. What does this mean for you?

**Small Group Discussion**

**1 John 3:10-18**

1. What does God say is equal to murder? (vs. 15)
2. Is there anyone that you currently hate or are holding a grudge against? If so, why?
3. Why is Christ’s death on the cross the supreme example of love? (vs. 16)
4. How is God’s true love seen to be real in the believer? (vs. 18)
5. As you consider the relationships in your life, how does this text challenge you to rethink your responsibilities to your “brothers” and “sisters”?
6. Commit what you’ve learned to God in prayer.

**Memory Verses:**

**1 Peter 5:8-9** - Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.