

*Lesson  
23*

# The Hearts of Man

God has provided forgiveness  
through Jesus Christ.

# Memory Verse

Genesis 6:5

And God saw that the wickedness  
of man was great in the earth, and  
that every imagination of the  
thoughts of his heart was only  
evil continually.

**Is it wise to follow your heart?**

# Romans 5:12–14

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

# Romans 5:15–16

15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

16 And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.

# Romans 5:17–18

17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

# Romans 5:19–21

19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

# Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

# Genesis 6:5

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

# Genesis 8:21

And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

# Psalm 51:5

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

# **Jeremiah 17:9**

The heart is deceitful above all things,  
and desperately wicked: who can know it?

# Definitions

## Original Sin

every individual is born with a  
sinful nature through Adam's sin

# Pop Culture vs. Scripture

- ❖ After reading over the *Cinderella* lyrics, what did you conclude about the message the song presents compared to the Bible?
- ❖ How does what Michael says about his heart compare to Scripture?

# John 3:16–18

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

## John 3:19–21

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

## **1 Corinthians 15:21–22**

**21** For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

**22** For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

## **Psalm 51:5–6**

5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

# God's Word in the Real World

What evidence could you offer to someone who doubts that all people are sinful from conception?

# God's Word in the Real World

If a person believes that the doctrine of original sin is unfair, are they being consistent when they look for salvation from sin through the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross?

# God's Word in the Real World

If sin is passed to all of Adam's descendants, why is it important to affirm that Adam and Eve were the original parents of all people?

# God's Word in the Real World

What hope do you find in knowing that you can look to what Christ has done for assurance of your salvation rather than looking to your own works to commend you to God?

# God's Word in the Real World

In what ways do you think you may have been deceived by the world's message of "follow your heart"? What do you need to do to repent of that?

# God's Word in the Real World

As you look at the culture we live in, how do you see the false message of the goodness of humanity promoted? How can this be an opportunity to share the gospel?

# God's Word in the Real World

How has this lesson helped you  
to understand the need to share  
the gospel with those around  
you?