



"And now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world..." (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance
of this week's lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®
or Standard Lesson Quarterly®.

TWO PEOPLE SINNED

When Adam and Eve ate forbidden fruit, they set in motion a series of circumstances that still control the world. By disobeying God, they twisted their relationship with him and distorted their relationship with each other. Not only that, the whole creation was changed for the worse. Paradise became polluted with the effects of their disobedience. It's apparent that what we see in the news daily is both a replication of that first sin in a myriad of forms and the consequences of it.

HOW MANY ARE SINNING NOW?

The confirmation hearings for Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh illustrate the point. Questions abound: Did a drunken 17-year-old Kavanaugh attack a classmate? Is now-university professor Christine Blasey-Ford either mistaken or lying about what happened long ago? What motivated Senator Feinstein to withhold the information in the professor's letter until the hearings were all but over? Are Senators of both parties more interested in partisan power than in truth? Is the press selectively reporting the matter, each network from its own bias? When/if it's a matter of "he said, she said," how do any of us know what to believe?

1. Thinking of any of the various scenarios that may play out, how do you think these hearings will affect future nominations for the Supreme Court? Explain.
2. Supposing the behavior of both Kavanaugh and Blasey-Ford in the incident thirty-five years ago was as alleged, how does this relate to immature, impulsive decision-making in all lives?
3. The existence of splintered relationships can certainly be seen in today's partisan divides. How can we work to heal such divides rather than making them deeper?
4. How does the sin of Adam and Eve affect us personally? In what ways is their sin like your sins and mine?

—Charles R. Boatman

www.standardlesson.com/category/in-the-world

Copyright © 2018 by Standard Publishing, part of the David C Cook family. All rights reserved.
Each download is for the use of one church only.