

Genesis 3:1-6

For background on Satan see Isaiah 14:12-14

1. Satan either takes on the form of a snake or spiritually indwells the reptile empowering speech to come from its mouth. Either way a talking snake should have caused Eve some pause or concern. Apparently it did neither. How aware are you of the subtle temptations that the enemy puts in your path daily.
2. In his first question Satan sounds incredulous that God would be so stingy. However, he has taken a very small amount of truth, surrounded it with a lie and introduced doubt into Eve's mind. What did God actually say (2:16-17) and what benefit is it for Satan to turn God's generosity into a question of stinginess?
3. Eve adds an extra prohibition onto God's message in her response in that the Lord never mentioned touching the fruit in his warning. How does exaggerating God's prohibition show us some insight into Eve's newly founded doubt of God's character?
4. The second half of Eve's response speaks to God's warning. "lest you die" was not what God said. The phrase gives the connotation of "you may die" or "there is a possibility you could die" both of which are a far cry from "you shall surely die." How does watering down the consequences of sin open the door for Eve to make a really bad decision? How do we do the same?
5. In verses 4-5 Satan now moves from subtly questioning God's word to outright lying about his character. "Eve, there is no way you will die, (God doesn't mean what he says, he is a liar) but also God is holding back what is rightfully yours (knowledge of good and evil) in order to keep you down! Eve don't take this lying down, stand up against this authoritative, stingy, mean-spirited deity! Take what is rightly yours eat the fruit!" How does Satan seeing Satan's true colors in this exchange with Eve caution us in our dealings with temptation to sin?
6. Eve eats as does Adam who, "was with her." How could Adam be in ear-shot of this conversation and not jump in and help Eve? Why do you think he remained silent and then became a willing accomplice by biting into the forbidden fruit? Any lesson here for us?