**Q57. What is the covenant that God made with Adam as the representative for all of mankind?**

The covenant required that Adam obey and trust God entirely. In this, obedience would be rewarded with eternal life and blessing, but disobedience would be punished with curse and death. Adam disobeyed, bringing the consequences upon mankind.

1. We learned last lesson that we must keep the Covenant of Redemption in mind as we read the Bible. We must remember that “all of what we read about in the Bible happens because of that covenant. All of what we read in the Bible serves to fulfill God’s perfect plan to which the focus of that covenant informs us.” Discuss how this applies to today’s lesson, and discuss how this Covenant Theology study as a whole is helping your understanding of Scripture.
2. It is very important that we understand that God made Adam and Eve good and righteous, but they were not made infallible nor immutable in their nature. Review these terms (infallible& immutable) if needed and discuss this reality with each other.
3. What was the basis (by grace or by work) for experiencing rewards of this Adamic Covenant?
4. Are the rewards we have in Christ a return to Adam’s pre-fall state of existence and the pre-fall garden?
   * What rewards were at stake in The Covenant of Works?
   * How would it have changed Adam’s original good/blessed/sinless state?
5. What system has God wisely ordained for how many people are represented by one God-appointed person?
   * We’ve discussed Federal Headship a few times now. With a growing understanding of it, discuss with your group (possibly as a practice as to how you would share these things with your kids or with non-Christians):
     1. How Adam’s fall (as mankind’s representative) ruined all of us.
     2. And how a person is saved only by grace, through faith, in the person and work of Jesus Christ as the better Federal Head.
6. We see in the Genesis account that Satan used falsehood to temp and deceive Eve. We need to know sound doctrine and not accept teaching that contradicts it. Discuss with your group the importance of this and the ways you’ve been growing in sound doctrine, as you’ve further studied and learned God’s word at Disciples Church.
7. Sometimes we can see clearly the ways that sin affects more than just the one committing it. The sin of Adam is the most clear and substantial example of this. Make this personal for you: how does knowing your sin can and does affect others help you fight sin and conform to the image of Christ?
8. We have a creature-creator moral obligation to use our capacities to obey God in all He requires of us. We can clearly see Adam fail in this.

* How does Adam’s testimony encourage you to make efforts to be in personal obedience? Are you more motived to act how our Creator shows us in Scripture to act? Discuss how the gospel, and not simply trying harder, is the foundation and hub for this.