

## Scripture Reading

### Genesis 2:15-17

Then the Lord God took the human and put him into the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. The Lord God commanded the man, saying, “From any tree of the garden you may surely eat; but from the tree of knowing good and bad you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.”

### 1) Two Trees in the Garden

#### Genesis 2:8–9 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup>Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. <sup>9</sup>The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

### 2) The Tree of Life

#### Genesis 2:9b (NIV)

<sup>9</sup>.... In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

### 3) The Tree of Knowing Good and Bad

#### 1 Kings 3:7–9 (NIV)

<sup>7</sup>“Now, LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. <sup>8</sup>Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. <sup>9</sup>So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?”

### 4) A little peek forward

#### Genesis 3:1–6 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it.’ ” <sup>4</sup>“You will not

certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. <sup>5</sup>“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup>When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Deuteronomy 12:8 (NASB95)

<sup>8</sup>“You shall not do at all what we are doing here today, every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes;

Judges 17:6 (NASB95)

<sup>6</sup>In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes.

Genesis 3:22

Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil. And now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever.”

John 14:6 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup>Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.