



## Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

### Why Do You Live That Way?

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017

*(Genesis 4:1-16)*

Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man."<sup>2</sup> Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil.<sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD.<sup>4</sup> But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering,<sup>5</sup> but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

<sup>6</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? <sup>7</sup> If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

<sup>8</sup> Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

<sup>10</sup> The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup> Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup> When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

<sup>13</sup> Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is more than I can bear. <sup>14</sup> Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."

<sup>15</sup> But the LORD said to him, "Not so; if anyone kills Cain, he will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. <sup>16</sup> So Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

1. Name something you do in your Christian life that most unbelievers would think was strange. What motivates you to do that?

2. There are two possible translations for Eve's words after Cain's birth in vs. 1. Either, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man" as the NIV translates, or "I have brought forth a man, the LORD," insinuating that she thought Cain was the Savior that God had promised after the Fall into sin. How do both options still highlight Eve's faith in God's promise of a Savior and love and mercy?

3. How was God showing his grace and mercy to Cain, even by confronting him with his sins in vs. 6-7?

How was God even showing his grace and mercy to Cain in doling out his punishment for murder in vs. 12-15?

4. God was calling Cain to repent of his sins by physically speaking to him. In what ways and through what means does God continue calling his people to repentance today?

5. List all of the different things we find in this account that show us the consequences of the sin that Adam and Eve ushered into the world.

6. List all of the different things we find in this account that show God's grace and mercy shining forth even brighter than the consequences of sin.

7. In your own words, respond to a person who asks you, "Why do you live that way?" in reference to your Christian life.