

Tuesday Bible Study: Week 5  
*Genesis 4*



October 8, 2024

1. Opening icebreaker: In reading the story of Cain and Able, did you notice something you had never thought of before? Was there anything that surprised or confused you?
  
2. The story of Cain and Able is not appointed to be read in the Sunday Lectionary. Why do you think that is?
  - a. How should we approach difficult or challenging passages in Holy Scripture? What approaches or tools can help us?
  
  - b.
  
3. There are several parallels between the story of the Fall in Genesis 3 and the story of Cain and Able in Genesis 4:1-16. What similarities do you see? What is different?
  
4. In Numbers (Numbers 15:15-20 and 18:12-18) the Lord God requires a sacrifice of the first fruits of the harvest. Why do you think this portion of the harvest is set aside for God? What is being emphasized here?

- a. What do you think might be the equivalent of a "first'-fruit" offering today?
  
5. Both Cain and Able make an offering based on what they do for a living. How do you see your faith intersecting with your vocation (current vocation, or a former vocation)? Have you ever felt there is/was a conflict between your profession and your faith?
  - a. What is required to serve God faithfully while pursuing secular vocation?
  
6. Have you ever had to reconsider how you were spending you time, or what you were making a priority in your life? What made you realize that you might need to make a change?
  
7. Read Hebrews 11:4. Does this verse from the New Testament shed any light on the offerings of Cain and Able? Why or why not?
  
8. Read Matthew 5:21-24. How does Jesus' commandment relate to the story of Cain and Able? What connections do you see?
  - a. What does this suggest about our role in persuing forgiveness and reconciliation?