The Greatest Story about Love and Chaos

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters." **Genesis 1:1-2**

Interactive Questions:

- Who brought disorder to the earth?
- Why do we live in a fallen world?
- How much do you think God loves you?

Introduction: The bible teaches us that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth in perfection. In the Garden of Eden there was harmony, abundance and order; but after in the second verse we view how God's creation is found formless and empty. This is because the enemy was thrown out of heaven due to the evil that was found in him. We as Christians sometimes encounter battles, not only against problems the enemy brings our way, but also with the problems that we cause to ourselves or sickness that attacks our loved ones etc. All of this has a beginning, a story and an end of the story. Now a days we are closer to the end of the story than ever before; therefore it is necessary to understand this, so that our faith will not wear down. Today we will learn about "The Greatest Story about Love and Chaos" where we will understand God's plans, how Satan has tried to ruin God's plans and how God's love has won.

• God Created Everything Perfect (Genesis 1:1-2)

- In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth in perfection; where there was peace, harmony, no disease, nor violence.
- What happened between verse 1 and verse 2 in Genesis? There was a lapse of time where **chaos was manifested**. When Lucifer was expelled from heaven together with the third part of the angels, this caused disorder on earth. Ever since, sin entered the world and converted it into a fallen world.

• Who Disordered the Creation? (Ezekiel 28:12)

- The character known as Lucifer, devil, Satan or the ancient serpent is the character that enters the scene of humanity, causing a chaos that disarrays God's perfect creation.
- Satan, in the beginning was never an unpleasant character. The bible indicates in Ezekiel 28 that he was perfect and beautiful. He obtained honorable privileges

before God until the day evil was found in him. 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God. Your clothing was adorned with every precious stone[b]—red carnelian, pale-green periot, white moonstone, blue-green beryl, onyx, green jasper, blue lapis lazuli, turquoise, and emerald—all beautifully crafted for you and set in the finest gold. They were given to you on the day you were created.14 I ordained and anointed you mighty angelic guardian. You had access to the holy mountain of God and walked among the stones of fire.15 "You were blameless in all you did from the day you were created until the day evil was found in you. Ezekiel 28:13-15

• This character introduces sin, steals peace and harmony, and brings a spirit of division that influences the third part of the angels. Satan wanted God's throne and because of his pride he was thrown out of heaven; though he influenced a third of the angels, he is still unsatisfied and wants to take down God's souls into hell because we are made in God's image.

• Why Does Satan Hate Us? (Genesis 1:26)

- The devil hates us because we are made in the image and likeness of God. We are the closest resemblance of God and remember Satan wanted to be God. When the devil sees us, he sees the face of God and is reminded of His power, authority, triumph and his (Satan's) defeat...in other words he's destined into the eternal lake of fire.
- He hates us because we are God's object of love! God did not give His love to the stars or moon, instead He decided to give His full love to human beings. Due to this reason we can receive the full love of God and also give full love to God, because He designed it this way. Satan envies this truth because he wanted God's worship for himself, and he has no access to the love of God. (Romans 8:39)
- Satan hates us because us human beings, after God are the next greatest source of love that exists in the world. Sometimes we reason if this true due to our bad temperament, defects and weaknesses, but above all this He loves us so much that he made it this way. The lion doesn't have the love we possess, nor does the dog or cat; for animals have instincts but we humans have LOVE because we are made in God's image and likeness. God the Father deposits His same love in us with the purpose of sharing it with others.

Conclusion: We continue to live in a fallen world where things do not get better but worst. We are in a world that is distorted and confused where what is good is seen as bad, and what is bad is seen as good. Satan is the character who disarrayed and perverted God's perfect creation. He wants to put God to shame and manipulate the souls; so that they sink into hell. Satan is unhappy, fearful and he knows his terrible end and he doesn't want to suffer alone. We are an object of God's love and the greatest source of love, after God. God is counting on us to win souls through love.

God is placing a fire and a sense of urgency so that you will snatch the souls from the enemy, so they make it to heavenly paradise; while sitting at the right hand of God.

Announcements:

- Classes for the "New Believers": Sundays at 1pm & Tuesdays at 6:45pm
- Youth Services "Radical Generation": Fridays at 7pm

<u>Dear HOP Leader:</u> remember to completely fill out your report include all those who attended your HOP and count the "New Believers," thank you.