

## Developing a Sermon Theme

### 1. Find a theme: Central idea

Many passages have multiple possible themes

#### Gen 4:2-15

Family

Religious nature

Envy

Offerings

Violence

Compassion/responsibility

Nature of blood

The power of a curse

We will choose sin: The nature of sin

**Genesis 4:7** If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it."

### 2. Follow the theme: What does the scripture say about sin? (not the whole Bible)

Sin crouches: *V7 NLT/NIV sin is crouching...* not parading in full view

Animal hiding: Sin hides!

Sin overpowers: *V7 to have you/NLT to control you...*

### 3. Develop the theme:

a. You can think through the implications of the main ideas

Who does sin hide from? Primarily ourselves

How does sin hide from us?

Motivations

Power

Cost

b. You must ask: What is the answer to this problem?

Key question: What does God do when we choose sin?

How can the problem (the sin problem) be fixed?