

# New City Catechism: Question 14

**Question:** Did God create us unable to keep his law?

**Answer:** No, but because of the disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, all of creation is fallen; we are all born in sin and guilt, corrupt in our nature and unable to keep God's law.

## Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- I. In theory, could Adam and Eve have never sinned?
- II. Is there any aspect of our humanity that is not influenced by the sin nature inherited from Adam?
- III. How can we embrace the theological truth that we are helpless to follow the law, knowing that a “helpless” mindset goes directly against the grain of the American “can-do” attitude?
- IV. If someone were to object to something within the answer to Q14, what do you think they would object to?
- V. What would be a biblical response to someone insisting that sin nature being passed down from Adam is “unfair”?

