



Where Are You?
Genesis 2:1 – 3:15

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*⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, “**Where are you?**” (Genesis 3:8 – 9)*

1. Why does _____ want to ask us questions?

- Because God wants to _____ into a relationship with us.
- Because God wants us to _____ with the questions.
- Because questions _____ us.

During the season of Lent this year, we are going to explore the same questions God has been asking his people throughout history!

2. In the Garden, our first ancestors broke the one and only rule given to them by God and the results were _____.

⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. (Genesis 3:6 -7)

- We lost closeness with God.
- We lost closeness with one another.

Consider: How do you think Adam and Eve felt when they realized the consequences of their actions?

3. When we hide from God, God comes _____.

⁹ But the **LORD God called to the man**, "Where are you?"

¹⁰ He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

¹¹ And God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

Consider this quote: "Nothing can ever extinguish the flame in God's heart that burns to be in personal relationship with us." (Trevor Hudson) Do you believe this to be true? Why or why not?

4. God's question invites us to come _____, to take off our fig leaves, and to become more real.

²⁰ Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living. ²¹ The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. (Lk. 15:16-17)

THE MAIN POINT:

When we are found by God, divine love flows naturally into the way we relate to God, ourselves and others.



Doggy Bag: *Something to Chew On and Ponder Throughout the Week*

1. Where are you, at the moment in your relationship journey with God?
2. How do you sometimes hide from God and from those around you?
3. When did you first become aware of God's personal love for you? Read Luke 15 this week and consider the Parables of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Prodigal Son. Imagine God this very moment thinking of you with persistent longing. How does this change the way you relate to God and to others you may deem beyond God's reach?
4. Who has made God's love real for you? How did he or she do this?
5. Who in your circle of relationships can you make God's love more real?