

GONE FISHING

WEEK 2 | The Fall

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for your plan of salvation. Thank you that in your compassion, you did not leave humanity to die in our sin, but to rise to life immortal through faith in Christ Jesus, our atoning sacrifice. Thank you for your amazing plan of redemption, that by the one righteous act of Christ Jesus, our Lord, many will be declared righteous and be forgiven of sin, through faith in Him. Keep me low at the Cross and broken before you, and I pray that those who are still dead in their sin and at enmity with you would be convicted of their sin and turn to Jesus for forgiveness of sin and life everlasting. This I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

-Knowing Jesus

WARM UP (OPTIONAL)

What was a movie or show you had high hopes for, but you were disappointed upon experiencing it?

PRAYER



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WORD

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

GENESIS 3:1-11

"How did Adam and Eve react after their eyes were opened and they realized they were naked?"

The answer to that question is found in [Genesis 3:7-15](#).

1. They covered up, or "made coverings for themselves" (vs 7).
2. "They hid from the Lord God" (vs 8).
3. They were afraid of God (vs 10).

"Fallen human nature is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Thousands of years later, our first reaction to sin, guilt, and shame is still to cover up and hide. Hiding from an all-knowing, invisible God is not the smartest move ever.

While Adam and Eve were hiding, God was seeking. He walked the garden, calling them by name and giving them an opportunity to come clean about their sin. Rather than confessing and repenting, they passed the blame and rationalized.

The good news is that while man continues to sin, run, and hide—God continues to pursue, because while it is human nature to cover up and hide, it is God's nature to seek and save.

That's the gospel in Genesis."

-Steve Murrell, *Divine Hide and Seek (The Gospel in Genesis)*

(For an additional reading, see [verses 14-19](#))

GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale from 1 to 10 (1 = never; 10 = always), how would you rate your ability to take responsibility for mistakes you may have made? Why would you rate yourself this way?
2. What did Eve perceive to be desirable in the fruit she was forbidden to eat by God? What connection can be made between desire and disobedience?
3. Read verses 14-19. How are you struggling with the effects of the Fall right now? Sin's temptation affects everyone differently. Maybe you are:
 - Frustrated at work that your "ground" isn't producing the way it should, despite your "toil."
 - Dominated by physical pain or suffering in your life.
4. Upon being discovered by God in their sin, Adam blames Eve, and Eve blames the serpent. Their response to sin is to cover it up with fig leaf clothing and blame one another. How do you think they should have responded?
5. How does the work that God gave Adam to do in Genesis 2:15 ("The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it") differ from the curse of work in 3:17-19? How do you see the work that you do every day?

If you are not yet a follower of Jesus, would you choose today to trust Him and to follow the One who sacrificed His all for you, and offers you life by His grace and not by our own "fig leaf" salvation projects? Will you enable him to have all authority as the one who calls the shots in your life? Would you like to enter into a saving relationship with God through Jesus? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to be the master of my life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. I declare that I am yours, and you are mine. In Jesus' name, Amen.

NOTES