



Week 8

Growth Group Opener:

When you were a kid and knew you were in trouble, what was your go-to hiding spot? Did it ever actually work?

Read Genesis 3:8-24; Romans 5:12-17

What kind of relationship did the man and woman have with God prior to the fall?

What drove them to hide when they sinned...fear, guilt, shame, or something else? What is the difference between these, and why does that matter?

Why does God ask the question in v9? What is the underlying invitation there?

Compare 2:25 with 3:7. How has that one word changed because of sin?

In what way does sin cause us to feel exposed and lose a sense of safety in the presence of God and others?

Where do you see the pattern of deflection found in v11-13 in your life or in the world?

What do you see in God's response in v14-15? Who is addressed first, and why?

How does v15 (known as the protoevangelium) point to Jesus?

In v16-19, we see the consequences of sin touch every dimension of human life. How do you see those consequences still playing out in the world today?

Compare v16 with 2:18-25. How did this relationship shift from its original design?

What do we learn in God's response in 21? How does this foreshadow Christ?

How is v22-24 an example of God's kindness and protection, even though painful?

We see God pursuing and providing for Adam and Eve, even in their sin and rebellion. How does this shape the way you see God in your own story?

What do we learn about God in these passages?

Is there anything you feel the Holy Spirit inviting you to look at more closely?

Dig Deeper: This week, sit with Genesis 3:9 and consider where God is personally asking you, "Where are you?" How would you honestly answer him? Let his pursuit draw you out of hiding and into his loving presence.

Note: If you need help carrying shame too heavy to hold alone, please reach out to a pastor, counselor, or trusted friend.

Prayer:

Father, thank you for pursuing us and for not leaving us in our sin. Thank you for covering us in the righteousness of Jesus. Help us to walk in that grace each day, extending the same to those around us. In the name of Jesus, amen.

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