

Discussion Guide

Discussion Guides accompany the weekly message.

Opening Activity:

When was the last time you felt caught—either by guilt, shame, or the consequences of a choice—and what was your first instinct: hide, explain, or own it?

Read:

Genesis 3:1-13, 20-24

Genesis 2:16-17

Romans 3:23

Luke 15:3-7

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Satan's first move is to question what God said instead of directly denying God? (Genesis 3:1)
2. How have you seen small exaggerations, half-truths, or misunderstandings of God's Word lead people into confusion or compromise? (Genesis 3:2-3; Genesis 2:16-17)
3. What lies does sin tend to whisper that still sound believable today? (Genesis 3:4-6)
4. What's the difference between guilt that leads you back to God and shame that makes you want to hide from Him? (Genesis 3:7; Genesis 2:25)
5. What are the most common ways people "hide" from God today without realizing it? (Genesis 3:8-10)
6. Where are you most tempted to *doubt God's goodness* when you don't get what you want right away?
7. What does "hiding from God" look like in real life today (even for Christians)? What are some ways we do that without saying it out loud?
8. Do you tend to respond to sin with more **guilt** ("I did wrong") or more **shame** ("I am wrong")? How has that shaped your relationship with God?
9. The sermon highlighted how quickly the blame game starts (Genesis 3:12-13). When you mess up, who or what do you usually blame first—and why?
10. God didn't stop pursuing Adam and Eve, and He hasn't stopped pursuing us. What would it look like for you to stop hiding and take one honest step toward God this week?

Challenge for the Week:

Have one intentional conversation with someone you trust (a spouse, friend, mentor, or group member) and share ONE area where you've been tempted, stuck, hiding, or carrying shame. Then ask them one simple question: "Will you pray with me and check in on me this week?"