



July 12, 2026  
Series: Week 2  
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## **“Clothed with Meaning: God Covers, Calls, Transforms” (Genesis 3:7-10, 21)**

**Campfires** have always been a gathering place for people to share stories, both those they have heard, and the ones that they have lived. Each week in our series, we will have one or more speakers share stories from God’s Word that have inspired them, convey how they have applied these lessons to their lives, and provide encouragement for our church family to consider.

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### **A brief survey of clothing in Scripture...**

**Creation/Fall: God covers human shame.** In Genesis, clothing first appears after sin enters the world. Adam and Eve realize they are naked, try to cover themselves, and hide from God. But God Himself makes garments for them. From the beginning, clothing is connected to shame, mercy, and God’s provision.

**Genesis 2:25; Genesis 3:7–10; Genesis 3:21**

**Priestly garments: God clothes people for worship and holiness.** The priests were clothed in garments “for glory and for beauty.” These garments reminded Israel that worship was holy and that God graciously provided a way for His people to draw near.

**Exodus 28:1–5; Exodus 28:36–38; Leviticus 8:6–9**

**Royal garments: Clothing can show honor, authority, and identity.** Royal and court garments often marked favor, calling, dignity, and authority. Joseph, David, and Esther, all show us that clothing can reveal how God raises up, honors, and positions people for His purposes.

**Genesis 41:41–42; 1 Samuel 18:3–4; Esther 6:6–11**

**Prophetic garments: Clothing can become a visual sermon.** The prophets often used clothing as a sign. Garments could communicate grief, judgment, humility, hope, or calling. Sometimes what a prophet wore became part of the message God was speaking to His people.

**1 Kings 19:19; 2 Kings 2:13–14; Isaiah 20:2–4; Jeremiah 13:1–11; Zechariah 3:1–5**

**Wisdom and poetry: Garments can picture character, dignity, shame, strength, or salvation.** In the Psalms, Proverbs, Job, and Isaiah, clothing becomes a metaphor for what marks a person’s life. Scripture speaks of being clothed with righteousness, shame, strength, dignity, salvation, and joy.

**Job 29:14; Psalm 93:1; Psalm 132:9, 16; Proverbs 31:25; Isaiah 61:10**

**New Testament: Believers are called to “put on Christ.”** In the New Testament, clothing imagery becomes deeply connected to Christian identity and transformation. Believers are called to put off the old self, put on the new self, and put on Christ.

**Romans 13:14; Galatians 3:27; Ephesians 4:22–24; Colossians 3:9–14**

**Revelation/final hope: God’s people are clothed in white.** The Bible’s clothing theme reaches its final hope in Revelation, where God’s people are clothed in white, cleansed by the Lamb, and welcomed into God’s presence. The story that began with shame and hiding ends with restoration and worship.

**Revelation 3:4–5; Revelation 7:9–14; Revelation 19:7–8**

## Key takeaways...

### (1) God covers what we cannot cover ourselves.

... We cannot fix our own sin, shame, fear, or inadequacy through self-protection or performance.  
... God provides the covering we need through His mercy and ultimately through Christ.

**Lesson to Learn...** *We do not have to hide from God.*

### (2) God clothes His people with identity and calling.

... Throughout Scripture, clothing often marks who someone is and what God has called them to do.  
... In Christ, we are not defined by shame, failure, fear, or our past.  
... We are given a new identity and called to live as people who belong to Him.

**Lesson to Learn...** *In Christ, we are given a new identity.*

### (3) God transforms His people from the inside out.

... The Bible does not merely call us to look different on the outside.  
... God changes who we are.  
... To “put on Christ” is to live out the new life He has given us.

**Lesson to Learn...** *Jesus does not just cover us; He transforms us.*

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**Encouragement for the week...** This week, consider reading some of the passages referenced above and ask:

*Where am I hiding?*

*What am I using to cover myself?*

*How is God inviting me to receive His mercy, identity, and transformation in Christ?*

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## Consider:

1. Where do you feel exposed, inadequate, or afraid right now?
2. What “fig leaves” do you tend to use to cover yourself — control, busyness, perfectionism, avoidance, performance, humor, anger, or hiding?
3. How does Genesis 3 show both the holiness and tenderness of God?
4. What does it mean that God moves toward Adam and Eve even after they sin?
5. How does the image of being “clothed with Christ” help you understand your identity as a believer?
6. What old patterns might God be asking you to “put off”?
7. What would it look like this week to “put on” Christ in your thoughts, words, relationships, and service?  
(Romans 13:14)
8. When your mind will not stop, how might remembering God’s covering and care help you trust Him more deeply?