

FACING THE FEARS THAT RUIN RELATIONSHIPS

TRANSFORMED – Part 5

Pastor Brian
May 15, 2016

Genesis 3:6–19 (NLT)

HOW OUR FEARS RUIN RELATIONSHIPS

1. FEAR OF EXPOSURE MAKES ME DISTANT.

“God called to Adam, ‘Why are you hiding?’ Adam said, ‘I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.’” Gen. 3:9-10 (LB/TEV)

Three Phases:

HUMILIATION

“... they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness” vs. 7a (NLT)

SANITATION

“So they sewed fig leaves to cover up themselves.” vs. 7b

SEPARATION

“Then they hid from God among the trees.” vs. 8

2. FEAR OF DISAPPROVAL MAKES ME DEFENSIVE.

“God asked, ‘Did you eat ... what I told you not to eat?’ Adam answered, ‘YOU gave me this woman and SHE gave me the fruit!’” Gen. 3:12

“Then Eve said, ‘The SNAKE tricked me into eating!’” Gen. 3:13 (TEV)

3. FEAR OF LOSING CONTROL MAKES ME DEMANDING.

“... You’ll have yearning for your husband, but he will lord it over you...” vs. 16 (NJB)

“... he will dominate you ...” (Berkley)

THE ANTIDOTE: LOVE

*“Where God’s love is, there is no fear, because God’s perfect love drives out fear.”
(1 John 4:18a, NCV)*

“It is punishment (negative consequences) that makes a person fear, so love is not made perfect in the person who fears.” (1 John 4:18b, NCV)

HOW TO LIVE IN LOVE

1. EVERYDAY SURRENDER MY HEART.

“Surrender your heart to God, turn to him in prayer, and give up your sins— even those you do in secret. Then you won’t be ashamed; you will be confident and fearless. Your troubles will go away like water beneath a bridge, and your darkest night will be brighter than noon. You will rest safe and secure, filled with hope and emptied of worry.” (Job 11:13–18, CEV)

2. EVERYDAY REMEMBER GOD LOVES ME.

- I’M COMPLETELY ACCEPTED.

“Jesus...made us acceptable to God and gave us the hope of eternal life.” (Titus 3:7, CEV)

- I’M UNCONDITIONALLY LOVED.

“For even if the mountains walk away and the hills fall to pieces, My love won’t walk away from you...” (Isaiah 54:10, The Message)

- I’M TOTALLY FORGIVEN.

“So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.” (Romans 8:1, NLT)

- I’M VALUABLE TO GOD.

“You have been bought and paid for by Christ, so you belong to him—be free now from all these earthly prides and fears.” (1 Corinthians 7:23, The Living Bible)

3. EVERYDAY OFFER GOD’S LOVE TO OTHERS.

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.” (John 13:34, NLT)

“Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.” (Romans 15:7, NLT)

*“Love never stops being patient,
never stops believing,
never stops hoping,
never gives up.”
(1 Corinthians 13:7, GW)*

**ACTION:
SUPER CLASS SUNDAY 6/5
SMALL GROUP LESSON: FRIENDSHIP**