

Beyond Survival: Personal Responsibility

January 7 & 8, 2023

All Bible passages are quoted from the New International Version of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

BIG IDEA: We should seek to take personal responsibility in ALL situations.

Genesis 3:11-13 | ¹¹ And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” ¹² The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

1. When you’ve made a mistake:

- **SURVIVAL MODE: DEFENSIVENESS**
- **BEYOND SURVIVAL: REPENTANCE**

2. When it’s not *really* your responsibility:

Luke 10:30-33 | ³⁰ In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.”

- **SURVIVAL MODE: IGNORE it (v.31)**
- **BEYOND SURVIVAL: OWN it (v.33)**

BEYOND SURVIVAL HACK: WE before me.

**NEXT STEP PRAYER: God I trust you with 2023.
I commit to take responsibility for myself and for others.**

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Further Study & Discussion Questions

Getting to Know You:

Talk about a time when you were in survival mode. Describe what it was like? How did it make you feel and what did you do to survive? Now discuss a time when you were thriving personally, as a family, or even professionally. How did you feel?

Quick Review:

Was there anything about this week's message that was surprising to you? Was there a specific point or Scripture that made you want to elbow the person sitting next to you? Or maybe made them want to elbow you? What was the one thing you remember most from the message?

Digging Deeper:

This week we started our new series to kick off 2023 called Beyond Survival where we studied the original fall when Adam and Eve sinned in the garden. We saw that when they disobeyed God, and chaos and crisis happened, it plunged them into survival mode and how they handled their sin. We learned how God doesn't merely want us to live with just a surviving mentality, but to live with a thriving mentality.

Read [Genesis 3:1-13](#)

What stood out about Adam and Eve's sin? It's easy to look at Adam and Eve and throw all the blame their way for why this world is jacked up, but the truth is, we all sin, and we're messed up at times. When Adam and Eve sinned and really jumped into survival mode, what stood out to you on how they responded to their sin? When they were confronted by God, they hopped into survival mode, began playing the blame game, and became defensive. We learned this weekend that instead of just trying to survive, the way to thrive is through repentance and turning back to God.

Read **Genesis 3:21**

Genesis 3:21 | The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

What was God's response and what was the significance for Adam and Eve and us? God made the first sacrifice recorded in Scripture here and used it to cover Adam and Eve's sin and shame.

What did this sacrifice and covering say about God and feelings towards His prize creation?

Application:

Adam and Eve sinned and even went to great lengths to hide their sin. God knew and God came looking for them, not to punish but to restore their relationship that had been hurt by sin.

Have you played the blame game or become defensive because of sin lately? **1 John 1:9** is a great picture of God, His love for us, and His response when we repent of our sin and seek His forgiveness. Although we may fail, God is always faithful!

Additional Bible Study:

Read **1 John 1:9**

1 John 1:9 | If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Think of the love and forgiveness we have through our always faithful God.