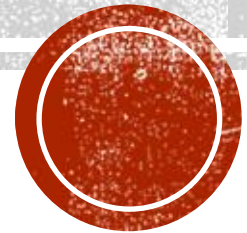


GENESIS 3:8-11

SIN, SHAME, AND THE PLAN



HEY EVERYBODY

Today we're actually going to start with Todd Vasquez who has been helping AbbaCare by coming in occasionally to help mentor young men who are new fathers-to-be. Todd's going to tell us a little about how that started, how it's going, and then answer any questions you may have.



GENESIS 2:25 – 3:7

Last week we talked about the invention of shame – how Adam and Eve learned they were sinful, thought badly of themselves, and believed God must think badly of them as well.

1. We discussed how Adam and Eve's sin was all part of God's perfect and only plan
2. We discussed how God was not expecting them to behave differently, so he wasn't surprised or disappointed by their behavior
3. Did you have any thoughts on how God wants you to feel with the knowledge of your sin in view?
4. Did you have any thoughts on how we should treat others in light of the awareness that God is not disappointed in us?



GENESIS 2:25 — 3:7

How does the idea that God is not surprised or disappointed by our sin relate to James 1:19-20? *You know this, my beloved brothers and sisters. Now everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger; 20 for a man's anger does not bring about the righteousness of God.*



GENESIS 3

Genesis 3 starts with perfect fellowship with God, and we see that relationship broken by sin and then inhibited by shame. What stories do we have in scripture where we see the opposite: where someone is ashamed because of their sin only to be brought into or returned to fellowship with God?

- The Woman at the Well (John 4). Here the woman begins by believing she is unlovable and hides herself, but learns that she is both fully known AND fully loved, and is unashamed and unafraid, and encourages others to be known and loved as well!
- The Prodigal Son (Luke 15). The son believes that his behavior has cut him off from his father and that he is not “worthy” of his place in the family. He learns that he was never worthy in the first place!



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- Peter's denial of Christ (Luke 22:61-62) Peter was surprised and disappointed to learn that he wasn't hot stuff. Was Jesus? What did Peter learn about Jesus' love?
- Do you think Peter was initially ashamed of himself? Do you think he initially would have liked to have a do-over?
- What do you think he'd have said later in life about a do-over?



GENESIS 3

If God turns our greatest defeats into his greatest victories, what perspective should we have about our own defeats and the defeats of our loved ones?

- What if a young man tells us he wants his girlfriend to get an abortion?
- What if our son or grandson tells us that he's going to marry a man or get surgery to transition his body to a woman's body?
- What if our wife tells us she wants a divorce?
- Do you think we'll forget all about sin in heaven someday? What perspective will we ultimately have?

