



# Presence

## FALLEN, HUNTED, REDEEMED

Genesis 3:1 – 17

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### MESSAGE NOTES

#### Four Movements of the Fall (And the Grace that Follows):

- **A Movement of Distrust (A heart that doubts God's goodness)**

*Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" – Genesis 3:1 (ESV)*

- Arguments may challenge the mind but our atmosphere often reshapes the heart
- The fall began with a heart posture revealed through humor

- **A Movement of Deception (Believing the lie)**

*But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." – Genesis 3:4 – 5 (ESV)*

- **"The root of all sin is the suspicion that God is not good."** – Oswald Chambers

- **A Movement of Defiance (Crowning ourselves as God)**

*So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. – Genesis 3:6 (ESV)*

*And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" – Genesis 3:8 – 9 (ESV)*

- **A Movement of Divine Pursuit (A Savior who comes after us with grace)**

*But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" – Genesis 3:9 (ESV)*

### MESSAGE SUMMARY

This message shows that sin begins not with dramatic rebellion but with a quiet distrust of God's goodness. In Genesis 3, humanity falls through three movements (distrust, deception, and defiance) leading us to hide from God and from ourselves. Yet the heart of the gospel is that when we run and hide, God still seeks us. From the garden to the cross, Scripture reveals that if we ever find God, it's because He found us first. Jesus reverses the Fall by taking the tree of death and turning it into a tree of life, proving once and for all that God can be trusted and inviting us out of hiding and back into grace.



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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Use as many or as few of these questions as are helpful for your group or family discussion.

- Discussion Starter: What's something you knew was a bad idea in the moment, but did it anyway? (Keep it light—no need for a full confession.)
- Read Genesis 3:1 together. What is subtle about the serpent's question, Did God actually say...? What does this reveal about how doubt often enters our hearts?
- Read Genesis 3:6. According to this verse, what made the tree appealing? How do those same desires (physical, emotional, status, control) still show up in our temptations today?
- Read Genesis 3:4–5. What lie about God is being planted here? Why is temptation so powerful when God's goodness is questioned?
- Read Genesis 3:8–10. Why do Adam and Eve hide? What does their response tell us about how shame impacts our relationship with God?
- Read Genesis 3:9. Why do you think God asks, Where are you? if He already knows? What does this tell us about God's heart toward broken people?
- Read Luke 19:10 and Romans 5:8. How do these verses echo God's pursuit that began in Genesis? How does Jesus fulfill what God started when He went looking for Adam and Eve?
- What does "hiding" sometimes look like for you with God (avoidance, busyness, humor, distraction, self-justification)? What would it look like this week to stop hiding and respond honestly to God's question, Where are you?
- Closing Prayer: Share something from your life in Christ that makes you smile with joy. Take some time to close in prayer, thanking God for the things that make you laugh with joy because of who He is and who you are in Him.