

Text: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-21

The brokenness of our world and what we feel within tells us that things are not as they should be.

### The Nature of Sin:

- Rejection of and rebellion against God's ways
- Following anything or anyone we place in the position of God
- Sin promises wholeness but leaves us disintegrated.
- Sin breaks and corrupts the shalom that God originally designed for our flourishing in relationship with Him, ourselves, others, and this world.

### The Human Reaction to Sin:

- Shame & Guilt (Genesis 3:7a compared to Genesis 2:25)
- Covering (Genesis 3:7b)
- Hiding (Genesis 3:8)
- Arrogance and blame shifting (Genesis 3:12-13)

### Questions for Reflection:

- How am I trying to cover myself from the sin in my life and the sin done against me?
- How do I hide/am I hiding? (i.e. What is my MO to deal with my own sin or the sins of others against me?)
- What lies am I believing that lead me into hiding?
- Where/How am I refusing to take responsibility for my sin?

### The Path from Sin to Freedom:

- Hear God's invitation to step out of hiding into a healing, restorative relationship with Him (Genesis 3:9-11)
- Taking responsibility for your actions (Genesis 3:11-13).
- Receive the forgiveness and covering that only God has provided for you in Jesus (Genesis 3:21; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21)

*\*This template is for groups who continue to gather this summer while weekly, sermon-specific life group questions are not being provided.*

**Pray:** Lay down any distractions, control, fears, etc. that will keep you from fully engaging in your time together.

Looking Back:

What has God been teaching you lately as you've been applying what you're learning about Him?

Looking up:

What about the sermon was challenging, helpful, new, or interesting to you?

Did this sermon cause you to think about any other related Scriptures?

How does this sermon most speak to how you can grow in: Loving God; Loving one another; or Making His love known?

How did this sermon press you into prayer? What did God show you in prayer?

Looking forward:

What step of action is God calling you to take based on this study? How can our life group pray for and support you?

**Prayer:** How can we be praying for one another? How can we be praying for those in our lives who are far from God but near to us relationally?