

important question is how Adam and Eve heard God ask this question. Having disobeyed God, they may have heard it with harshness in God's voice.

Of course the question itself could have different meanings; it could mean a physical location or it could refer to you well-being physically or mentally. How about you? How would you receive this question from God? Meditate on this question and write your thoughts here.

Thursday, July 16

Read Genesis 3:1-11 again. Having disobeyed God and eaten from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Adam and Eve made clothes for themselves and hid from God. We also hide from God and others. Can you remember times in which you have hidden from our loving Creator or others? We sometimes hide behind a web of pretension and coverings hoping that our true selves will not be revealed. The nakedness that Adam and Eve tried to conceal is actually celebrated in the second chapter of Genesis: "And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed." (2:25) Nakedness is a metaphor for the revelation of our true selves. How many people know your true self? Meditate on this idea and write your thoughts here.

Friday, July 17

In any long term relationship, you sometimes have to ask, "Where are you?" That question resonates with God's question that assures us that God is always seeking us, always loving, always inviting us to step out of hiding and into each other's presence. That process of coming out of hiding and yes, even shedding our metaphorical fig leaves, allows us to stand before each other and our God and truly experience unconditional love. Think about what it would mean to step out of hiding and let your true self known to God and others! Then you will truly know love!

Message Notes – July 12, 2020

*Questions from God – Where Are You?**

- I. So often we view our scriptures as an _____ book.
 - A. It might be interesting to take a break from expecting God to crank out _____ to our questions and examine our scripture for the questions God asks of ____.
 - B. A book that has been on my shelf for over a decade; a _____ book by Trevor Hudson titled *Questions God Asks Us*.
 - C. Hudson inspires me to ask, "Why would _____ want to ask us questions in the first place?"
 1. First, God wants to enter into a conversational _____ with each of us.
 2. Second, God asks us questions as a means of giving us greater _____, allowing us to wrestle with life questions rather than handing us an answer.
 3. The third reason God asks questions in our scriptures is because questions have the greater potential and power to _____ us than a straightforward answer.
- II. In our scripture for today, God called out to Adam and Eve, "Where are _____?"
 - A. How do you _____ that question from God?
 - B. The real question is how did Adam and Eve hear God asking the question, "Where are you?"
 - C. When studying scripture _____ is everything.
 1. I believe God asked the question, "Where are you?" with a _____ and light hearted tone.
 2. Adam and Eve may have heard those same words in an accusatory, _____ tone.
- III. Certainly, Adam and Eve must have known that they

*Genesis 3:1-11

- IV. broke God's heart through their _____.
- They suddenly had an intense experience of _____.
 - Have you ever _____ from God?
 - The problem with trying to hide from God is God always comes _____, "Where are you?"
 - It is a wonderful _____ to search for God; however, it has been my experience personally and with others that we search until _____ are found.
- V. We hide in _____ ways.
- Like Adam and Eve, we cover up our nakedness with fig leaves – layers of pretending and _____.
 - This is an issue of self-awareness and coming out from hiding from not only God but _____ and ourselves.
 - In any _____ relationship, you sometimes have to ask, "Where are you?"
 - That process of coming out of hiding and yes, even shedding our metaphorical fig leaves, allows us to stand before each other and our God and truly experience _____.

Daily Devotional Guide

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, July 13

What's your view of scripture? Do you look at our Bible as an answer book that can guide our lives each and every day of your life? Or do you consult it or consider its wisdom once in a while, during monumental decision that you need to make? Is the Bible a book of answers or a collection of stories that have meaning and morals? How wide is the scope of our scriptures? Does it bear meaning just in the spiritual realms of life or does it offer practical

advice for most of life?

The series of messages that began yesterday suggests that the Bible offers to us questions that God asks us. What do you think of that concept? Meditate on how you view scripture and how you have interacted with our sacred texts over the course of your life. Write your thoughts here.

Tuesday, July 14

Why would God want to ask us questions in the first place? Why would our all-knowing, all-loving, all-powerful God want to ask anything, of anyone?

First, God wants to enter into a conversational relationship with each of us; conversations help us to learn about each other and what is important to each of us. Second, God asks us questions as a means of giving us greater dignity, allowing us to wrestle with life questions rather than hand us pat answers. A third reason God asks questions in our scriptures is because questions have the greater potential and power to transform us than a straightforward answer. Questions draw us into a journey of exploration, possibly self-examination and therefore transformation. Can you think of other reasons why our God would ask us questions? Meditate on these reasons and your ideas and write your thoughts here.

Wednesday, July 15

Read Genesis 3:1-11. God ask Adam and Eve, "Where are you?" How do you hear God asking that question? Was he simply curious about their whereabouts or was he angered that they might be hiding from Him? Pastor Jack offered a variety of way in which we might hear God ask this question; just as we would ask it differently ourselves in different contexts. Of course, the really