Answering God's Questions

Brent Moody · Genesis 3:9–13

INTRODUCTION

- The more I read these stories, the more I see God interacting like a loving and just father.
- I hope that you caught how similar a lot of these questions are to the sorts of things that we would say to our children.
- God as a loving father who is directing, who's guiding, who's disciplining, who in essence is actually trying to help people who then are rejecting the help that he's offering.

1 Where Are You? God as an Interested Father

Genesis 3:9–10; Genesis 4:6–7

- And God is seeking a relationship. And so the first question here really is God as an interested father.
- Why are you hiding? God is the creator, he made you, he provided for you, he cares for you, and now you're hiding from him.
- Why are you angry, Cain? Why is your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted?
- It's a decision that you've made to mope around the house and be angry and mad and hate life right now. That's a choice that you've made.

2 Who Told You? The Father Who's Interrogating

Genesis 3:11–12; Genesis 4:9

- Who told you were naked, Adam? You're not even supposed to know this information. Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?
- He just moves on to the next thing. Hey, it's the woman that you gave me. He blames Eve.
- What we see in this story is the problem with Adam was Adam. The problem with Eve was Eve. And the problem with Cain was Cain.
- Instead of answering the question and wrestling with what he's actually done and who he really is, again, he's going to turn this back on God.

3 What Have You Done? The Father Who's Disappointed

Genesis 3:13; Genesis 4:10

- The father who's interested to the father who starts interrogating a little bit more, and then it's the father who's disappointed.
- These are the questions where he's metaphorically shaking his head.
- Adam and Eve, of course, have violated the single commandment that God gave them.

4 Sin Comes With Consequences; God Is Not at Fault

- Our actions are going to be followed by natural results.
- We do deal with the consequences of sin, and God is not at fault. It's not his fault that I do the wrong thing, and then I have to bear the burden of that in my life.
- It is humanity's fault that we have these problems. It is not the fault of a holy and righteous God.

5 Failing to Own My Sinful Behavior Damages Relationships

Hebrews 4:12–13

- Failing to realize and recognize and own my own sinful behavior damages important relationships around me.
- If I'm hiding from or avoiding people, that's a pretty good sign that something's not right.
- Maybe to think, what's the question that God would ask me right now?
- I have to be honest with who I am. And the big part of that is being willing to listen when God speaks.
- The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, and no creature is hidden from his sight. But all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

6 There's a Solution to All of This

Hebrews 4:14–16

- But the whole story of Scripture is that there's a solution to all of this.
- Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
- If we are willing to confess our sins, he is faithful to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- Unlike Cain, who said, I'm not my brother's keeper, Jesus gave himself as a sacrifice for me and for you.

THE CHALLENGE

Be committed to learning from their mistakes, seeing the errors that they made, and lessening the possibility of sin, or when we realize we have sinned, humbly admit those sins and return to God in faithfulness.

MY NOTES