

WEEK 5: "THE RELATIONAL YOU"

The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover them-selves. When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the Lord God among the trees. Then the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" He replied, "I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked." "Who told you that you were naked?" The Lord God asked. "Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?" 12 The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it." Then the Lord God asked the woman, "What have you done?" "The serpent deceived me," she replied. "That's why I ate it." Then He said to the woman, "I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy, and in pain you will give birth. And you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you." And to the man he said, "Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, the ground is cursed because of you. All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it. It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains. By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return." ~ Genesis 3:6-19 (NLT)

HOW OUR FEARS RUIN RELATIONSHIPS?

1. MY FEAR OF _____ MAKES ME DISTANT.

Then the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" He replied, "I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked." ~ Genesis 3:9-10 (NLT)

"... they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness" vs. 7

"So they sewed fig leaves to cover themselves." vs. 7

"They hid from the Lord God among the trees." vs. 8

2. MY FEAR OF _____ MAKES ME DEFENSIVE.

The Lord God asked, "Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?" The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit." ~ Genesis 3:11-12 (NLT)

“The serpent deceived me,” she replied. “That’s why I ate it.” ~ Genesis 3:13 (NLT)

3. MY FEAR OF LOSING CONTROL MAKES ME _____.

THE ANTIDOTE TO FEARS IS _____.

“Wherever God’s love is, there is no fear, because God’s perfect love drives out all fear.” ~ 1 John 4:18 (NCV)

“It is the thought of punishment (negative consequences) that makes a person fearful.” ~ John 4:18 (NCV)

HOW DO I LIVE IN GOD’S LOVE?

1. I _____ MY HEART TO GOD EVERY DAY.

“Surrender your heart to God, turn to him in prayer, and give up your sins— even those you do in secret. Then you won’t be ashamed; you will be confident and fearless. Your troubles will go away like water beneath a bridge, and your darkest night will be brighter than noon. Then you’ll rest safe and secure, filled with hope and emptied of worry!” ~ Job 11:13-18 (CEV)

2. I _____ THE WAY GOD LOVES ME EVERY DAY

I’M _____.

“Jesus made us acceptable to God.” ~ Titus 3:7

I’M _____.

“My love for you will never end says the Lord.” ~ Isaiah 54:10

I’M _____.

“There is NO condemnation for those in Christ Jesus!” ~ Romans 8:1

I’M _____.

“You’ve been bought and paid for by Christ’s death.” ~ 1 Corinthians 7:23

I _____ THE SAME LOVE TO OTHERS EVERY DAY.

“Accept one another just as Christ accepted you.” ~ Romans 15:7

this week’s memory verse:

“Love never stops being patient, Love never stops believing, Love never stops hoping, Love never gives up!” ~ 1 Corinthians 13:7 (GW)