

GENESIS 3:8-10

"THEN THE MAN AND HIS WIFE HEARD THE SOUND OF THE LORD GOD AS HE WAS WALKING IN THE GARDEN IN THE COOL OF THE DAY, AND THEY HID FROM THE LORD GOD AMONG THE TREES OF THE GARDEN. BUT THE LORD GOD CALLED TO THE MAN, 'WHERE ARE YOU?' HE ANSWERED, 'I HEARD YOU IN THE GARDEN, AND I WAS AFRAID BECAUSE I WAS NAKED; SO I HID.'"

LUKE 18:9-14

**"TO SOME WHO WERE CONFIDENT OF THEIR OWN
RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LOOKED DOWN ON
EVERYONE ELSE, JESUS TOLD THIS PARABLE:
'TWO MEN WENT UP TO THE TEMPLE TO PRAY, ONE
A PHARISEE AND THE OTHER A TAX COLLECTOR.
THE PHARISEE STOOD BY HIMSELF AND PRAYED:
"GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I AM NOT LIKE OTHER
PEOPLE, ROBBERS, EVILDOERS, ADULTERERS, OR
EVEN LIKE THIS TAX COLLECTOR.**

I FAST TWICE A WEEK AND GIVE A TENTH OF ALL I GET." BUT THE TAX COLLECTOR STOOD AT A DISTANCE. HE WOULD NOT EVEN LOOK UP TO HEAVEN, BUT BEAT HIS BREAST AND SAID, "GOD, HAVE MERCY ON ME, A SINNER." I TELL YOU THAT THIS MAN, RATHER THAN THE OTHER, WENT HOME JUSTIFIED BEFORE GOD. FOR ALL THOSE WHO EXALT THEMSELVES WILL BE HUMBLLED, AND THOSE WHO HUMBLE THEMSELVES WILL BE EXALTED."

**WHERE ARE YOU? TAKING OFF THE MASKS WE
WEAR**

GENESIS 3:8-10

LUKE 18:9-14

THE MASK THAT WON'T COME OFF

GOD ASKS THE QUESTION: "WHERE ARE YOU?"

GOD IS OMNISCIENT.

THE QUESTION ISN'T ABOUT LOCATION.

IT'S ABOUT RELATIONSHIP.

THE PHARISEE: THE MASK OF PERFORMANCE

**PHARISEE, "SOME WHO WERE CONFIDENT OF
THEIR OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LOOKED DOWN
ON EVERYONE ELSE."**

**YOU CAN'T RECEIVE MERCY IF YOU'VE CONVINCED
YOURSELF, YOU DON'T NEED ANY.**

THE TAX COLLECTOR: THE MASK REMOVED

**TAX COLLECTOR: HEARS GOD'S PRESENCE AND HE
STEPS OUT OF HIDING**

**THE TAX COLLECTOR DIDN'T HAVE TO CLEAN UP
FIRST.**

**GOD IS SAYING, "THE MESS IS THE REASON I'M
HERE."**

**THE RICH RULER: THE MASK HE COULDN'T LET GO OF
A RICH YOUNG RULER: THIS MAN'S SPECIFIC MASK.**

MONEY, SECURITY, WHAT HE OWNED

AND WHAT IT SAID ABOUT HIM.

**JESUS LET HIM, LOVED HIM, AND HE LET HIM GO,
LOVE DOESN'T FORCE A PERSON TO TAKE OFF HIS MASK.**

THE CROSS: WHY WE CAN FINALLY TAKE THE MASK OFF

GARMENTS OF SKIN. SOMETHING HAD TO DIE.

**GOD HIMSELF COVERS THE SHAME OF HIS
CHILDREN.**

IT COST SOMETHING.

GOD DOES THE COVERING, AND IT COSTS HIM.

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:21 SAYS: "GOD MADE HIM
WHO HAD NO SIN TO BE SIN FOR US, SO THAT
IN HIM WE MIGHT BECOME THE
RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD."**

JESUS TOOK OUR COSTUME

HEBREWS 4:16

**"LET US THEN APPROACH GOD'S THRONE OF
GRACE WITH CONFIDENCE, SO THAT WE MAY
RECEIVE MERCY AND FIND GRACE TO HELP US IN
OUR TIME OF NEED."**

**APPROACH GOD'S THRONE WITH CONFIDENCE,
BECAUSE OF WHAT JESUS DID.**

THREE CHALLENGES TO TAKE OFF THE MASK

CHALLENGE NUMBER ONE: STOP PERFORMING.

**ONE TIME THIS WEEK, PRAY A PRAYER WITH
NO POLISH.**

**CHALLENGE NUMBER TWO: COME HONEST.
FIND A QUIET MOMENT THIS WEEK, A DRIVE,
A WALK, THE KITCHEN AFTER EVERYONE'S
ASLEEP, AND TELL GOD THE TRUTH. NAME
IT.**

SEVEN WORDS WILL DO.

CHALLENGE NUMBER THREE: LET GO OF