



IMAGO DEI

Hiding in Plain Sight

For the week of September 28, 2025.

Life

Check in: Did you attempt to intentionally live out Galatians 3:26-28 as suggested last week? If so, what did you learn from this exercise? How are your daily interactions with others (friends, family, and strangers) affected when you remember to see them as beloved individuals created in God's image?

How do you tend to handle arguments or disagreements with your spouse, or with your friends and acquaintances? Do you hide from them and give them the silent treatment? Sleep on it and discuss it in detail the next morning? Blame them? Say you're sorry, regardless of who started it? Make excuses and justify yourself?

Theology

Genesis Chapter 3 is all about the entrance of sin into God's good creation. Do you think the idea of "sin" has gone out of fashion in our 21st century world? If so, why? If not, then why do you think people so rarely use this word anymore outside of church or religious settings?

Why do you think many people today are comfortable talking about the reality of "evil" and "injustice," but they feel awkward and ill at ease talking about "sin"? What's the difference?

Read Genesis 3:1-5. How would you describe or interpret the temptation of the serpent? Just what exactly is the serpent implying here, and why is this specific temptation particularly dangerous, and even deadly?

How do you think this temptation compares to the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness in Matthew 4:1-11? What strikes you about the way Jesus responds to temptation in contrast to Adam and Eve's response, and what can we learn from his example when we face our own temptations?

Read Genesis 3:6-9. Today we live in a very "feelings-oriented" society. How can something "good" – the beauty, nourishment, or wisdom conveyed by the fruit – be so "wrong" when it feels so good (see also 1 John 2:15-17)?

What is so wrong or "sinful" about eating from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil? Does God want his people to remain ignorant and uneducated about ethics and morality? What do you think is the point of this divine prohibition (cf. John 5:19-20)?



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Theology

Why do you think God calls out to the man, “Where are you?” Doesn’t God know everything? What do you think is the real significance behind this searching question?

How would you personally define “sin?” We often tend to make light of sin, and even name perfumes after it. So why do you think it is so horrific and despicable in the eyes of God?

We tend to say, “To err (or to sin) is human” – or, in other words, it’s just naturally who we are and how we were made. But is it really? If humans are created in God’s image, how can sin be our natural inclination? What do you think this says about the way sin has invaded our world and infected our minds, our thoughts, and our relationships with God and others?

In Practice

Jesus is “the True Human,” or humanity as God originally intended. He is “the exact representation of his being” (Heb. 1:3), and the perfect “image of the invisible God” (Col. 1:15). What does this mean to you personally, and how does it impact the way you live your life and go about your daily routines?