

A Battle Of Two Truths

Believing The Lie:

Genesis 3

The problem:

- ✓ Following the **lie** brought a new **truth** about us.
Not only have we done **bad**...we are **bad**.
- ✓ Our guilt and shame have become our **new identity**.

The result:

- ✓ We hide from **ourselves**, **others** and **God**.

Reclaiming What Was Stolen:

Psalm 139, 32, 51 2 Corinthians 5:6-7 & 14-21, 10:5 1 John 1:9, 3:1-6, 4:7-21
John 8:31-36 Hebrews 4:16 Romans 8:9-17

The answer: Choose to walk by **faith** not **sight**.

Sight = Blame **others** for where we **are today**.

Faith = Own what we **have done** and **confess it**.

Sight = Believe that we are what we **have done**.

Faith = Daily remind ourselves of how **God sees us**.

Sight = Continue to hide from **ourselves**, **others** and **God**.

Faith = Accept a **greater truth** and live in that **light**.

Growth Group Homework

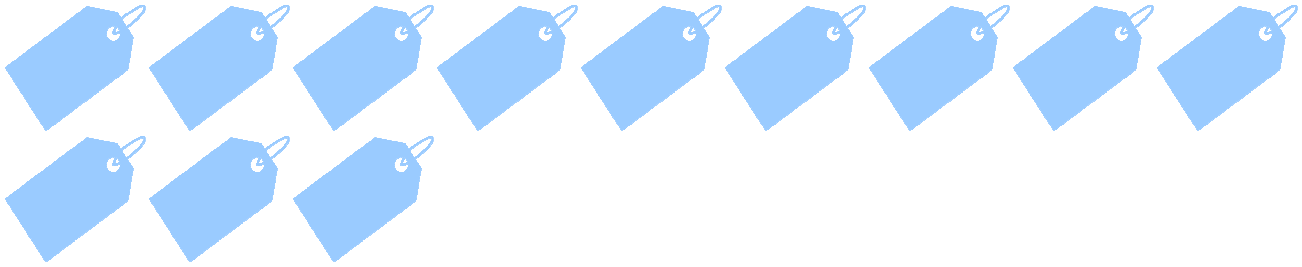
For the week of November 5, 2017

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. We all label ourselves – for the good and bad. Take a minute and jot down the labels people attach to themselves, both positive and/or negative.



As you think of your own labels, can you look back at your life and see where they came from? If so, explain.

2. Because of our guilt and shame, we all fall into the trap of hiding. Would you say you tend to hide the most from yourself, others or God?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. This weekend we saw how David dealt with the conflict between the two truths Chris mentioned. Psalm 51 is a view into David's life as he deals with the reality of his dark side and how God views him. This Psalm is his direct response to God after being found out and confronted about his affair with his neighbor's wife and the murder of her husband. As you read Psalm 51, jot down as many labels, both positive and negative, you can think of that David could have put on himself.

What part of David's prayer and confession do you relate to the most?

Most of us have not gone into the depths of darkness that David did. Do you think there could be a danger in thinking we're not as bad as David? If so, explain.

Can you think of any modern day examples of how we confuse sacrifice with a broken or contrite spirit as seen in verses 16 & 17?

Psalm 51:16-17 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart
you, God, will not despise.

2. Chris talked about the confidence we can have to no longer hide from God and be real about what's going on in our lives. How do the following Scriptures help encourage us to not hide, but be honest and move confidently toward God?

Hebrews 4:14-16 *New International Version (NIV)*

Jesus the Great High Priest

¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. 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.

Psalms 32:3-5 *New International Version (NIV)*

³ When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴ For day and night
your hand was heavy on me;
my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer.

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess
my transgressions to the LORD."
And you forgave
the guilt of my sin.

James 4:6 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud
but shows favor to the humble."

3. It can be humbling when we realize Jesus takes us, flaws and all, and gives us a new identity. No matter what we've done in the past or how little or far off the path we've gone, we have an amazing God that wants to come alongside and help. How could the following verses help someone who is struggling to embrace their new label and identity in Christ to walk by faith?

Galatians 2:20 *New International Version (NIV)*

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 *New International Version (NIV)*

²¹ Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, ²² set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

2 Corinthians 5:21 *New International Version (NIV)*

²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

John 15:15 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

Number these verses from 1-4 in order of importance to you when thinking about your new identity in Christ.

TAKING IT HOME

1. Looking back at this week's teaching and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and why?

2. Are there any changes you'd like to make as a result of this week's message and study?

Praise/Prayer Requests:

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THE DAILY DOSE – Use your cell phone to text the keyword “daily” to 51400 to receive a daily text message with a link to a quick video devotional during the “Identity Theft” sermon series. Standard text rates apply. Questions? Email info@northcoastchurch.com

GREEN OAK
people. Duties
Team Leader is
Sign up at



RANCH GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION – On Saturday, Nov. 11, 8am-12pm, we could use help from about 30- 60 may include: gardening, planting, weeding, raking paths, hauling away debris, painting and basic landscaping. Our John Westbrook.

<http://northcoastcommunityservice.org/organization/green-oak-ranch/>

- **Date/Time:** Saturday, Nov. 11, 8am-12pm
- **Meet:** 1237 Green Oak Road in Vista, CA 92081
- **Bring:** Gloves, hats, closed-toe shoes, sunblock & water
- **Child Friendly:** Yes, but we ask for parental supervision at all times
- **Tools to Bring:** Rakes, shovels, hand trowels, hand clippers of any size, brooms, dust pans & wheelbarrows