



TOGETHER SERIES

Part TWO: The blessing was never in “alone”

Exodus 18:13-23 (NLT)

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”² “Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. ³ “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’” ⁴ “You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman. ⁵ “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.” ⁶ 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. ⁷ At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves. ⁸ When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man[d] and his wife heard the Lord God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the Lord God among the trees. ⁹ Then the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ He replied, “I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked.” ¹¹ “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.” ¹³ Then the Lord God asked the woman, “What have you done?...”

Cont. In verse 23

23 So the Lord God banished them from the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made.

- THE ENEMY’S PLAN WAS ALWAYS TO ISOLATE...
- TO ISOLATE ADAM FROM EVE (V. 12)
- TO ISOLATE BOTH OF THEM FROM GOD (V.23)

WHY? BECAUSE ALL OF LIFE’S BLESSINGS COME FROM “TOGETHER” (Ps. 133:1-3)

BARRIERS TO DOING LIFE TOGETHER

1. We might be too _____ - _____.

2. We might be _____.

3. We might be _____.

4. We might be _____ - _____.

“YOUR LIFE WILL GO FARTHER WHEN IT’S ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE THAN WHEN IT’S ABOUT YOU.”

Proverbs 11:25

The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed; those who help others are helped.

5. We might be _____.

“NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE SAY TO YOU, OR DO TO YOU- NEVER DEVELOP A WOUNDED SPIRIT”

- There is good news if you do have a wound...

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Psalm 147:3 (NKJV)

CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION IN LIFE GROUPS

LG QUESTIONS:

1. What are some other potential barriers to doing life together?
2. Why is it sometimes so hard to connect with other people?
3. On the barrier of stress: what are some things you do to combat stress when you feel it coming on?
4. How can we avoid developing a wounded spirit?

Pray Together: Who needs God’s help learning how to do life with others?



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