

Who Do You Crave?

Scripture: Genesis 3

We all know the story of Adam and Eve... the creation of Adam from the dust of the ground... placing him in the beautiful Garden of Eden to take care of it... commanding him not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil which would lead to death though he could eat from any other tree. Realizing he needed a suitable helper and forming Eve from his rib.

Here comes the serpent convincing Eve to eat from the forbidden tree. In v.6 Adam and Eve thought at that moment that the fruit of the tree was more desirable than obeying God's command. They wanted the knowledge that they thought would come from tree. When confronted both tried to shift the blame but to no avail. Their disobedience resulted in consequences (v.16-19).

God created us for His own glory. Psalm 115:1 speaks to God deserving the glory because we are nothing without Him. We were created to CRAVE God.

Do we ever have moments when there is something more desirable than God? Maybe we don't believe it intellectually, but our actions say something different.

Our relationship hierarchy has to be God before our spouses. Satan can deceive us, like he deceived Adam and Eve, and cause us to put our spouses' needs or desires before God. There's nothing wrong with making our spouses a priority, but are we making them THE priority?

We were created to be in a deep commune with God, a deep relationship. But through sin, we now have to fight through our own desires to get back to what should be our #1 desire... living for God Himself. Let's make sure we CRAVE God.

For the women...

When I read Gen 3:16b a lightbulb went off in my head...and my heart. God told Eve what her punishment for disobedience would be..."your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

That's a punishment? To desire my husband?...YES!!! Because we were created to DESIRE ONLY GOD!

I realized that for almost 31 years, I've placed pressure on my husband to desire ME! I was calling my husband to go against God's will. I also better understand the scripture in Colossians 3:1-5 where we're called to set our hearts and minds things above.

You see, when we ask our spouse to fulfill our needs, we're asking the impossible! We're also asking our spouses to have a divided heart, be distracted and unfocused to what God calls our husbands...all of us to.

All that we seek must come from God himself. Want to feel loved, important, valued, validated, encouraged, desirable? Who are you asking it of? Yes, we want all of these things from our spouses too, but they CAN'T be a replacement from seeking these things from God. When we seek God, crave and desire Him, the funny thing is that we don't even focus as much on receiving these things from our spouses.

So we ask you again...Who do you crave?

For the men...

Adam received God's command about the tree of the knowledge of good and evil directly from God yet he didn't intercede when Eve was having the conversation with the serpent and reiterate God's direction. Eve didn't exist at the time the command was given. This was a missed opportunity by Adam to lead and protect Eve.

Sometimes I can be more focused on pleasing and meeting my wife's earthly needs rather than leading as God calls for me. Ephesians 5:25 calls for we husbands to love our wives as Christ loved the church. Can you imagine Jesus putting the desires of the church before God?

I am displaying my trust in God when my desire is to please Him first. If I'm leading in my marriage the way God calls for me to, my wife's needs will be met. Sometimes leading according to God's plan can mean temporarily disrupting peace in the relationship. But that's okay! Ephesians 5:26 says I should love her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word. My goal is to help her get to heaven! For that to happen, I must crave God first.

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