

## Lesson 5: The Mysterious Distance

### Intro:

“I could never take a chance  
Of losing love to find romance  
In the mysterious distance  
Between a man and a woman  
No I could never take a chance  
‘Cos I could never understand  
The mysterious distance  
Between a man and a woman.”<sup>2</sup>

**Big Idea:** \_\_\_\_\_ introduced distance into relationships.

<sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

<sup>8</sup> And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup> And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.”

<sup>11</sup> He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup> The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

### Disobedience is a Departure from God’s Design

- 1<sup>st</sup>, Adam failed to \_\_\_\_\_ Eve from the crafty \_\_\_\_\_.
- He did not adequately \_\_\_\_\_ her in light of how easily she is led astray.
- Vs. 6 indicates that Adam was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Adam should have spoken \_\_\_\_\_ into the \_\_\_\_\_ to subdue & rule it. He was silent.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>, Eve spent time \_\_\_\_\_ the tree and its fruit instead of “*working & keeping*.”
- She never asked Adam about it, but \_\_\_\_\_ over it.
- Adam didn’t \_\_\_\_\_.
- The king & queen of creation \_\_\_\_\_ the created order: He \_\_\_\_\_ her!

<sup>2</sup> Bono, “A Man and a Woman” Universal Music Publishing, 2004.

<sup>17</sup> And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' ..."

- In Hebrew, Greek and English to \_\_\_\_\_ is connected to listening.
- In the story of Abraham and Sarah, listening to her often brought trouble (Hagar!).
- In Genesis 21, Abraham brings her counsel to \_\_\_\_\_ who approves it.
- Women often have wisdom & insight but we are under God's authority: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Eve's voice was more \_\_\_\_\_ to Adam than God's voice.
- Like Adam, men often \_\_\_\_\_ their role to lead, protect & provide.

### **Disobedience Develops the Distance: Shame**

- The Story moves from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ thanks to the fall of Adam.
- Adam & Eve immediately realized they were \_\_\_\_\_.
- The first has the connotation of having nothing to hide- vulnerable, open.
- This word has the connotation of the \_\_\_\_\_ of something we want \_\_\_\_\_.
- Adam & Eve wanted to hide from one another even though they were \_\_\_\_\_.
- As sinners, they were no longer \_\_\_\_\_, they wouldn't honor God's Word.
- As a result, they could not be trusted to \_\_\_\_\_ their word.
- They hid their \_\_\_\_\_, but we hide our \_\_\_\_\_ from one another.
- God's image has been \_\_\_\_\_ in us. Our dignity has been \_\_\_\_\_.
- Not only have we done wrong (\_\_\_\_\_) we are wrong or broken (\_\_\_\_\_).
- We all struggle with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ shame.
- Shame is being seen and found \_\_\_\_\_, looked \_\_\_\_\_ upon by others.
- Shame is the sense of \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ that is turned inward.
- Shame: I am \_\_\_\_\_ of your \_\_\_\_\_ lest you discover my many shortcomings.

### **Disobedience Develops the Distance: Guilt**

- Adam & Eve hid parts of themselves from one another.
- They hid \_\_\_\_\_ from God. Having broken the law, they were \_\_\_\_\_ & scared.
- They knew the consequences of their disobedience meant \_\_\_\_\_. Guilty people hide.
- When we hide from God, even together, we can't receive the \_\_\_\_\_ we need.

### Disobedience Develops the Distance: Deflection

- Notice how \_\_\_\_\_ God is. He already knows, but seeks their \_\_\_\_\_.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of sin is greater than guilt & fear.
- Adam \_\_\_\_\_ responsibility for his choices & actions. “It’s not my fault!”
- Adam blames both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. If only God hadn’t given him her.
- Eve deflects too. She doesn’t accept \_\_\_\_\_ but blames that serpent.
- Shame, guilt & deflection block \_\_\_\_\_ in marriage (and family).
- Shame & guilt are often the engines that drive \_\_\_\_\_.
- Guilt can drive us to \_\_\_\_\_, attempts to make ourselves good w/out Christ.

### How the Gospel Decreases the Distance

- Shame, guilt and deflection can become our \_\_\_\_\_ instead of our \_\_\_\_\_.
- Often we only notice the \_\_\_\_\_, the drift, before shame, guilt & deflection.
- If the problem is one of \_\_\_\_\_ it is an issue of \_\_\_\_\_.
- If the problem is what one of you has \_\_\_\_\_ it is an issue of \_\_\_\_\_.
- If the problem is you \_\_\_\_\_ other people it is an issue of \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the only one who can repair the damage to our souls.
- He has removed our \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_, freeing us to stop blaming other people.
- It might be \_\_\_\_\_ & messy. He may have to perform \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>17</sup>“Behold, blessed is the one whom God reproves;  
therefore despise not the discipline of the Almighty.

<sup>18</sup>For he wounds, but he binds up;  
he shatters, but his hands heal. **Job 5**

- The distance decreases when we are \_\_\_\_\_ about failings & disobedience.
- The distance decreases when \_\_\_\_\_ is offered and received.
- God addresses our shame by giving us a new \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ. Bestows \_\_\_\_\_.

“For love and sex and faith and fear  
All the things that keep us here  
In the mysterious distance  
Between a man and a woman.”