

Be Naked and Die

Genesis 2:25; 3:1-10

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Genesis 2:25-3:1-10

25 The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"
" 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. 8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" 10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

Be Naked

Why?

If you hold all your fears and imperfections, you'll live your life in **worry** that these flaws will be revealed – but if you were completely honest, vulnerable, and admitting your imperfections, you can live your life to the fullest (you're no longer imprisoned by your flaws and imperfections)

Naked means to trust – If we cannot trust that God will see our imperfections and accept us as we are, we'll never be able to come to Him just as we are

Naked means to be vulnerable – If we are still trying to protect and cover our imperfections, we'll never be able to be naked before God. Come defenseless –accepting that we are imperfect.

"To Love is to be vulnerable" – CS Lewis

We must be naked to love others – be vulnerable and trustworthy

The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame. (Genesis 2:25)

To be naked is being able to admit:

"God, I don't have it together. Please guide me"

What in your life do you tend to cover up? What would shame you if someone were to find this out about you? Bring these matters to God and let Him know how you feel, and surrender – be naked.

Die

Why?

Only through your self-willed death, can you love God and others. By no longer seeking your ideals and goals (your desires), you can follow God. Our GPS will lead you somewhere much better than what you could imagine or think. (The question is, do you trust your GPS?)

God is all-able and can make anything happen in our lives, only if we die (if we lean on our strength, and ask God to boost our strength, it won't work). So, don't ever say – I can't get that job, I can never measure up to marry that person, I'll never succeed in my career, I'll never be able to graduate – God has a perfect plan for you, and if it is what He wants for you, all you have to do is die.

To follow Jesus is to **choose** self-execution – Even Jesus had to die to his desires to follow God's best path, which was to die on the cross

Die to your knowledge and experiences – most people tend to keep doing what used to work for them – but people of faith are open to God's calling – they are risk-takers (have faith God will provide)

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)

To die is like surrendering your driver seat

Who's driving your car? Let God take the wheel – He wants to take you somewhere better than you've imagined – let Him and die.

Damaged by evil

