

Genesis 3:9-12

Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

I wonder how different things would be if this conversation between God and Adam was different? With your permission, allow me to change it to what we know as the way we should react to God when we mess up.

Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" Then the man said, "Father God, I have sinned against You. I have not watched over and protected the beautiful wife that You have given me. I allowed the serpent to deceive her, and in my love for her, I put her before You by heeding her voice instead of being obedient to what You told us. Both, I and my wife have eaten from the tree that You told us not to. Father I take responsibility for this sin and ask that You punish me for this sin, and that You would please protect my wife from my disobedience to You. Please forgive me Father."

But it didn't happen that way. We know by reading the story that Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent, instead of confessing their sin to God.

But don't we teach our kids to just be honest instead of trying to hide something that they did wrong or bad. We even let them know that if they are honest right up front that their punishment would be less severe, or sometimes none at all. We teach this and know this. But how many times do we still try to hide, or make excuses for our sins? When you do, doesn't it just make things worse?

Even as kids we knew that it was better to fess up and take the punishment right away so that you can go on with life instead of trying to stretch it out. Plus, think of it this way, if you have to make an excuse to God, then you are forgetting that He is a Loving, Compassionate, and Merciful God.

† ***James 5:11 Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord--that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.***

And you know you can't hide anything from the Lord:

† ***Psalms 139:1-4 O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.***

For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.

So just confess it knowing that He is faithful to forgive, and stop trying to hide it or make excuses for your sins. I read nowhere in this next verse that God asks for an excuse, rather He just tells us to *confess*.

† **1 John 1:9** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*