

## FAR FROM HOME (THE FALL NT)

### SERIES RECAP & INTRO

- This fall, we are asking the question: What is God's story, and where do I fit in? To answer this, we are studying the Bible in 4 parts: Creation, Fall, Redemption, + Restoration. These 4 acts teach us truths about humanity + God. They help us see **The Big Picture**.
- For 4 weeks, we watched this story play out in the Old Testament. We learned God's ultimate desire is to be "**God with us.**" Unfaithful humans abandoned God and the home He created. Still, God was – and is – **faithful**. Despite human sin, He sought to reunite *his people with his presence in his place*, again.
- Last week, we read about the Word. We read that the Word was present during creation and that the Word was God. Later, the Word became flesh. Jesus lived a human life in the **broken home** we inherited from Adam, but He **did not** leave it the same.
- **Today, we will read more about Jesus. We will see how his decisions, even while FAR FROM HOME, paved the way for humanity's ultimate homecoming.**

### TRANSITION

- *Ask for a show of hands. Who enjoys **group work**? Ask for another show of hands. How many of you are the type to do all the work before your group members even open the doc? Ask for another show of hands. Be honest, how many of you don't open the doc until 11 PM the night it's due? One more show of hands. How many of you have ever had to present something someone else did for you?*
- With group work, no matter what type of teammate you are, someone else's work will undoubtedly impact your grade. **Someone else's choices impact your consequences.**
- This also happens at home. One sibling makes a mistake, breaks something, or stays out late, and – how parents react – it's like everyone else did it too. Sports coaches can be this way at times with players too. (\*\**Leaders: feel free to add an anecdote here!*\*\*)

### THE FALL OT (REVISITED)

- Adam and Eve were the worst group members imaginable. **Their decision to sin separated all humanity from God's presence.** Despite their **FALL**, God had a plan.
- In Genesis 3, God promised that the Son of Man would **CRUSH** the serpent's head. God also provided a **COVERING** for Adam + Eve with clothes made by His own hands.

- Both the **CRUSH** + the **COVERING** promised in Genesis are fulfilled in JESUS. And, like Adam's choice to fall, Jesus's choice to die for us has consequences for all humanity.

**HERE'S THE BIG IDEA: JESUS IS THE "SECOND ADAM." HIS DECISION TO DIE FOR US REUNITED HUMANITY WITH GOD'S PRESENCE.**

- While Adam pridefully chose to sin against God, Jesus humbly chose to live a human life and die a sacrificial death on Earth for our sins. He came to our **HOME** on Earth and secured the **FALL** of darkness and death.
- *Romans 5:15* says - *For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ.*

**BIBLE PASSAGES**

- We will return to Romans 5 later. But first, let's see what led Jesus to this point, how his time unfolded on Earth, and what happens now. We will look at verses **BEFORE**, **DURING**, and **AFTER** Jesus's 33 human years on Earth. (*\*\*Leaders: Heads up, I included a lot of NT reference verses. Feel free to cite as many or few as you like!\*\**)

<p><b>John 1:14</b></p> <p>14 So the Word became human and made his <b>HOME</b> among us. He was full of unending love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.</p> <p><b>John 6:38-40</b></p> <p>38 For I <b>have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me</b>, not to do my own will. 39 And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them up at the last day. 40 For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day."</p>	<p><b>BEFORE</b> - <i>Jesus left his HOME in heaven to be with us. He was obedient to God's will.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Last week, we learned that Jesus is the WORD made human. He has + always will be. Through Him, we see God's glory + through Him everything was created. (v.14)</li> <li>→ Before making his HOME among us, Jesus was in communion with the Father in heaven. Every day was a day spent at HOME in the Father's perfect presence.</li> <li>→ In John 6, Jesus tells his disciples He came down from heaven to fulfill the Father's will. (v.38)</li> <li>→ And what was God's will? For Jesus to rescue humanity + reunite them with God himself. (v.39)</li> <li>→ <i>While Adam disobeyed God's word, Jesus obeyed. So, He left His heavenly home and came down to Earth.</i></li> </ul>
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<p><b>Luke 2:7</b></p> <p>She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was <b>no lodging</b> available for them.</p> <p><b>Luke 9:57-58</b></p> <p>57 As they were walking along, someone said to Jesus, “I will follow you wherever you go.”</p> <p>58 But Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but <b>the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head.</b>”</p> <p><b>John 16:33</b></p> <p>I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because <b>I have overcome the world.</b>”</p>	<p><b>DURING</b> - <i>On Earth, Jesus was rejected, without a HOME. Still, He crushed death for our good.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ From the start, Jesus entered the world without a HOME. With nowhere to go, Mary laid the newborn savior in a manger. (v.7)</li> <li>→ Later, in Luke 9, Jesus himself said He – the Son of Man – had no place to rest his head. (v.58)</li> <li>→ Repeatedly, Jesus faced rejection and harm from human hands. He was tested, doubted, beaten, + hung on a cross to die.</li> <li>→ Still, He endured the brokenness + mistreatment of his temporary HOME. He died on the cross, bore the weight of our sins + rose from the dead. He overcame the brutal world we all inherited from Adam.</li> <li>→ <i>Adam’s sin left humanity homesick + broken. During his 33 years on Earth, Jesus experienced that darkness + separation. Still, he fulfilled God’s promise from Genesis – He CRUSHED death.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Ephesians 2:19-20</b></p> <p>19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also <b>members of his household</b>, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ <b>Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.</b></p> <p><b>2 Corinthians 5:1</b></p> <p>For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands.</p> <p><b>Romans 8:20-21</b></p> <p>20 Against its will, all creation was</p>	<p><b>AFTER</b> - <i>Jesus ascended back HOME. His death for Adam + OUR sins gives us a HOME too.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ By overcoming the world, Jesus secured all who believe a place in God’s HOME. (v.19)</li> <li>→ We are members of God’s household, able to reunite with his presence through Jesus + the forgiveness of our sins.</li> <li>→ Still, our Earthly home is not perfected. We live in a fallen world. Our bodies still groan for our full heavenly home. (v.1)</li> <li>→ Nature groans waiting for the day when all is restored from death + decay. (v.20)</li> <li>→ Next week, we will look at the Holy Spirit – God’s foretaste of what full communion with His presence will be like.</li> <li>→ <i>For now, we know this – Adam’s sin left</i></li> </ul>

subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, 21 the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay.

*humanity broken, longing for a home.  
Jesus's obedience put us on a path to a full recovery, full communion with God.*

## GOSPEL + CLOSE

### Romans 5:17

15 But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For **the sin of this one man, Adam**, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many **through this other man, Jesus Christ**. 16 And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but God's free gift leads to **our being made right with God**, even though we are guilty of many sins. 17 For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But **even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness**, for all who **receive it** will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.

### THE GOSPEL

- Let's wrap this up where we started, in Romans 5.
- **JESUS IS THE "SECOND ADAM." HIS DECISION TO DIE FOR US REUNITED HUMANITY WITH GOD'S PRESENCE.**
- This wonderful grace, a COVERING, a place in God's home, and the ability to be made right with God is available for **all** people. It's something you can't achieve, you just receive it.
- **JESUS DECIDED TO DIE FOR YOU. HE THOUGHT TO REUNITE YOU WITH GOD. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT?**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does it feel when someone else's actions impact your consequences? Can you think of a time when you experienced either a special privilege (ex. a good grade) or a punishment (ex. a bad grade) because of another person's choices?
- Describe your home on Earth. In what ways is it broken? In what ways is it beautiful? How does it feel to know God experienced human brokenness too and still loved us?
- Do you live like Adam – in disobedience, separate from God – or do you aim to live like Jesus – in obedience, reunited with God? How so?