



WALKING WITH GOD

GENESIS 2:15-20



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“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.”

Genesis 2: 15

There is just something about a good walk. Getting some exercise out in creation is good for the soul and especially when you get to share that time in good fellowship. One of my favorite things is going on a walk with my wife, MJ. As often as we can, we like to spend time walking and catching up on life. We have found it to be much more effective than just sitting and talking and the Lord has used it greatly in our marriage. Just the act of intentionally walking and talking.

After God created Adam, we see this picture of He and Adam together a few times in Scripture. After Adam and Eve sin, we get this phrase that they “heard the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day.” It is a strange addition to the passage unless we understand that this is a regular thing. God would come and walk around among them, and in our passage, God and Adam are walking together through the Garden, just spending time together.

As they walk, we see God doing a few things. First, He instructs Adam. He tells him about all there is for him but also what is restricted to him, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God is seeking to protect Adam by helping him know what to and what not to do. Second, God sees Adam. He realized that Adam is alone and lonely and that it is not good so He will make a helper for him. God saw the greatest need that Adam had even if he did not and could not express it. Last, you see the Lord providing purpose for Adam. He puts him in the garden to work it but then also allows Adam to name the animals. I would have loved watching Adam come up

with those names! God knew that Adam needed purpose, and He was providing for that as well.

While I was on sabbatical, one of the things the Lord challenged me with was to pray as if the Lord was right there with me, even to the point of praying out loud. I resisted at first, but as I have done it, I have noticed a few things. First, people think I am crazy when I am talking to Him on a walk or in the car by myself. But I have also realized that it changes how I pray. I talk to God more like a friend than the King (even though He is both), and it also helps me to listen to Him better in prayer. So, during this Advent, I would like to encourage you to do the same. When you pray, talk to Him as if He is there because He is. The same powerful God who created the universe and Adam created you. The same God who spent time walking with Adam longs to spend time with you. He has come close so that we might be with Him, so do it. Bundle up and take a walk with God today.

Abba Father, thank you that in the same way You walked with Adam in the garden that You long to walk with us today. Help us to see You as the loving friend that You are and to spend time listening to You as You see us, instruct us, and provide us purpose in You today. Guide us as we seek to walk with You today and every day.
In Jesus' Name. Amen.