

## *Week 4 - Day 23*

### *First things first - Love God, Love Others*

#### **Read:** Genesis 3

In 1 John 4:19, it says that we love, because He first loved us. If yesterday's question exposed the difficulty that you have in either loving God or loving others, this week we are going to tap in to the power that enables us to love. It's the way that He first loved us.

In this narrative, we see the iGod phenomenon on clear display. Satan is able to appeal to it in Eve and Adam, by saying that they would be like God. What had brought him undone is what he uses to undo others, even now. God declares the consequence of their actions, and what will happen, but in the midst of it makes a promise. The offspring of the woman (prophesying even at the beginning the virgin birth) will crush the enemy. The enemy will not be victorious, but God, existing amongst humanity, will be. Then, it says that God made garments of animal skin for them.



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He immediately shed blood to cover their shame. We can get caught in the idea of an angry God cursing humanity for disobeying Him and casting them out, but a closer look reveals a God who immediately promises their redemption, covers their shame, and makes provision for them.

**Question:** When you think of God, do you see Him as angry and holding your faults against you? Or making provision for them, and planning for you to be free?

**Prayer:** Dear Lord God, I can love, because you first loved me. Help me to see how much you love me.

Take some time here to take deep breaths in and out, and become aware of God's love for you. Don't rush this moment.