

Royal Redeemer Going Deeper Guide

Based on the sermon for Feb 18, 2024:
Far from Home: Who We Are



For personal reflection or for use as a devotion with a CGS Community or family

- **Begin by reflecting on/sharing a high and/or a low from your week**
- **CONNECT** *with each other*
 - How do you feel when you are far from home?
- **GROW** *in Christ (Read the following scripture from Genesis 3: 8-13 & 22-24)*

⁸Then 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. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." ¹¹And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" ¹²The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." ²²And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." ²³So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side^[e] of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

Genesis 3: 8-13, 22-24

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
 - When you are far from home do you begin to feel lonely after a while?
 - A 5/2/23 NPR Study concludes that America has a loneliness epidemic. How did COVID and social media contribute to that?
 - What was the temptation that Satan tempted Eve with (look up Gen 2: 16-17 and 3: 4-5)
 - In addition to banishing Adam and Eve from the Garden because they disobeyed God, why else did He do that? (see Gen 3: 22).
 - Gen 3: 5 describes the origin of "original sin". What evidence in the world do you see that shows humankind has inherited original sin from Adam and Eve?
 - Read Romans 5: 12 – How does this support the idea of mankind inheriting original sin from Adam?
 - When Adam and Eve were thrown out of the Garden they became far from home. And that's who we are (far from home). As the Hymn says, "I am but a stranger here, Heaven is my home.". How does that contribute to our loneliness?
- **SERVE** *others*

Who might God want you to share this with: that being far from our heavenly home is a large contributing factor to our loneliness?
 - **End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short Blessing**