

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. In the lower third of the image, there is a lush green hillside covered in a dense field of yellow wildflowers.

AND LET THEM **MAKE** ME
A SANCTUARY, THAT I MAY
DWELL IN THEIR MIDST.

✚ **Exodus 25:8**

MAKE WAY

✕ **MAKE WAY** *IN US*

✱ **MAKE WAY** *THROUGH US*

What We Were Made For | Genesis 3:1-10

ICEBREAKER

When you were a child, where was your favorite hiding place?

Or

When you want to get away from everything for a little while, where do you like to go?

INTRODUCTION

From the beginning, God created people to live in His presence and walk with Him. But when Adam and Eve sinned, shame and fear led them to hide from the very One they needed most. Yet God did not abandon them. He came looking for them. Throughout Scripture, God makes His way toward people, and through Jesus He makes a way for us to be with Him again. As we begin Make Way, we are invited to walk closer with God and help others walk with Him.

What stood out to you most from this week's message?

INTO THE WORD

Read Genesis 3:1-8 and Exodus 25:8.

What do these passages reveal about God's desire to be with His people? How is walking in a relationship with God different from simply knowing about Him, and what might that look like in your everyday life?

Read Genesis 3:7-10 and Psalm 32:3-5.

How do shame and fear affect Adam and Eve's response to God? What are some ways we hide from God today, even when we know we need Him?

Read Genesis 3:8-9, Luke 15:1-7, Luke 15:11-24, and Luke 19:10.

Why is it significant that God calls out to Adam after Adam has sinned? What do these passages reveal about God's heart toward those who are lost? How can guilt or

shame keep us from returning to God, and how does knowing He pursues us change our response?

Read Genesis 3:23–24, John 1:14, and Romans 5:8.

How did sin change Adam and Eve's relationship with God? How does Jesus make a way for us to be reconciled to God, and what difference should this make in how we approach Him today?

E M B R A C E A N D E M B O D Y

Making way for God means:

- Remembering that we were created to walk with God.
- Recognizing when sin, shame, or fear leads us to hide.
- Responding to God's invitation with honesty and repentance.
- Resting in the grace He has shown us through Jesus.
- Walking closer with Him and helping others walk with Him.

As a group, discuss the following questions:

- What is the difference between knowing about God and having a relationship with Him? How might the way we experience God's grace and pursue a closer relationship with Him influence the way we love, encourage, and help others walk with Jesus?
- What are some socially acceptable or even spiritually respectable ways we hide or avoid dealing with what God wants to address in our lives?
- What are some good things that can become substitutes for the relationship with God we were created to enjoy? How can we recognize when something good has become an unhealthy priority?

T A K E Y O U R N E X T R I G H T S T E P

(Prayerfully consider one of the following next steps)

- **Seek God Daily:** Set aside time this week to ask God, "Where am I spiritually, and what might You be inviting me to acknowledge or change?" Respond honestly through prayer.
- **Build Deep Relationships:** Share with a trusted friend or group member one area where you want to walk more closely with God.
- **Live Generously:** Make room in your schedule to be present with God and available to someone who needs encouragement.

CLOSING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for creating us to walk in relationship with You. Even when we turn away or try to hide, You lovingly pursue us. Help us to recognize the places where fear, shame, or distractions keep us from Your presence. Give us courage to draw near to You and make room for what You want to do in our lives. As we grow closer to You, use us to help others experience the hope of Jesus. May we be willing to make way for all You want to do in us and through us. In Jesus' name, Amen.