



Scriptures from New International Version unless noted

COLLIDING AND HIDING

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.”

Matthew 22:37-38

“And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Matthew 22:39-40

MAIN POINT:

Your relationships reveal what you really believe.

1. Sometimes I do things or say things that I shouldn’t.
2. Sometimes I don’t do or say things that I should.

Now the serpent... said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’” “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Genesis 3:1-6

Forms of Loveless-ness

1. Colliding

When you collide and there’s tension, ask...

*“God would you reveal what is happening in me internally right now?
Why am I so angry?”*

2. Hiding

Then 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. But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?” He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

Genesis 3:8-10

“To love someone fiercely, to believe in something with your whole heart, to celebrate a fleeting moment in time, to fully engage in a life that doesn’t come with guarantees... these are risks that involve vulnerability and often pain. But I’m learning that recognizing and leaning into the discomfort of vulnerability teaches us how to live with joy, gratitude and grace.”

- Renee Brown

**We need to reveal who we really are
in our relationships, but it’s uncomfortable.**

QUESTION:

What is God calling you to say or do in your relationships?
Are you avoiding it? Are you hiding from it?

“Every time you experience the pain of rejection, absence, or death, you are faced with a choice. You can become bitter and decide not to love again or you can stand straight in your pain and let the soil on which you stand become richer and more able to give life to new seeds.”

- Henry Nouwen

When you hide and avoid, ask...

*“God, what am I hiding from? Why am I scared?
What am I running from?”*

Relationships reveal what we really believe.

AND

God’s relationship with us reveals what he really believes about us.