Welcomed, Not Rejected

Learn to distinguish the pain of rejection from the Father’s invitation to return.

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PRIMARY SCRIPTURES

Genesis 3:8–21; Romans 8:15–17

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

John 6:37; Ephesians 1:5–7; Ephesians 2:6; Psalm 27:10

READ TEACHING

Rejection can train us to expect distance even from people who want to love us. In Genesis 3, Adam and Eve hide after disobedience. God addresses them, exposes what has happened, announces consequences, and provides clothing. These details must be held together. God’s care does not make sin harmless, and consequences do not exhaust the story of His care.

Genesis 3:15 is commonly read by Christians as an early promise anticipating Christ’s victory. Yet Scripture does not say Adam chose the fruit because he refused to leave Eve alone. A compelling interpretation must never be presented as a fact the text has established.

The clearer foundation for a believer’s welcome is the saving work of Christ. Romans 8 speaks of adoption rather than slavery to fear. In John 6:37 Jesus promises to receive those who come to Him. The invitation is rooted in His faithfulness, not in the strength of our feelings.

Ephesians 2:6 places our belonging in Christ’s risen life. You can bring the real wound of rejection into that relationship. Forgiveness and restoration do not require remaining in an unsafe situation or giving immediate trust to someone who has harmed you.

Take time to name the painful belief: “I will always be unwanted,” or “I must earn my place.” Compare it with the welcome offered in Christ. Pray honestly. Seek a trustworthy person who will listen without rushing your healing.

KEY REVELATION POINTS

God’s pursuit of Adam and Eve appears alongside real consequences for sin.

Scripture does not tell us that Adam ate the fruit to avoid abandoning Eve.

Adoption in Christ offers belonging without denying grief or the need for healthy boundaries.

TEACHING / SERMON OUTLINE

1. Name shame’s impulse to hide.

2. Observe God’s questions, promise, and provision in Genesis 3.

3. Explain adoption through Romans 8.

4. Invite prayer, community, and a wise next step.

YOUR POSITION IN CHRIST

“and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus” - Ephesians 2:6 NKJV

Read all passages in context. Use this handout for personal study, group discussion, or sermon preparation.