



LIFEGROUPS

Series: *Encounter*

Scripture: *Various*

Date: May 4 & 5, 2019

Message: *God's Invitation to
Encounter Him*

—[LET'S START]—

Pastor Dale began his sermon by talking about getting locked out of homes, cars, and websites. Have you ever been locked out? How did it make you feel?

—[LET'S TALK]—

1. **GRATITUDE AND PRAYER:** What happened last week for which you are thankful? What challenges do you see in your life? Your family? The World? As a group, take some time to pray. Thank God for the beautiful ways that He has been at work, and pray about the challenges that those in your group are currently facing.

2. Read Genesis 3.

This may be one of the saddest chapters in the Bible. In this chapter we read the sad story of the fall of humanity. What does this chapter teach you about:

- God?
- Human beings?
- Satan?

3. Read Romans 8.

Contrast what you read in Romans 8 with Genesis 3.

What does this chapter teach you about:

- God?
- Human beings?
- Satan?

4. What do you sense God teaching you to do as a result of our time studying His Word today?

—[LET'S ACT]—

At the beginning of his sermon, Pastor Dale shared with us that human beings were meant to bear the image of God by reflecting His character and representing His rule in creation. Let's take turns talking about how we might do that this week. What is a practical way that you can reflect Christ in your home, neighborhood, workplace, school, etc.? Now, pray that God will help you to reflect Him this week, and come back next time prepared to share how you have seen God answer prayer this week.

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- How did we get locked out of God's Presence in the first place?
- Humans were meant to bear the image of God by reflecting His character and representing His rule in creation.
- Humans were already like God. They were His image bearers. But that wasn't good enough. They wanted to be gods. So out of envy they tried to become what they could never be!
- The casualties included relational conflict between the man and the woman and broken intimacy with God! As a result, God locked them out of paradise.
- Adam and Eve tried several things to reclaim the paradise that they lost in the Garden.
 - Cover Up
 - Blame
- God who already knew the humans would rebel, although He did not intend for human failure, provided an eventual way back into the garden.
- God tells the snake, who symbolizes the devil, that though it seems he has scored a victory in turning the humans against God, He is destined to be defeated. One day a descendant of the woman will come and deliver a lethal blow to devil and the evil he has spawned. But, it would be very costly!
 - Blood would be shed to cover their shame.
 - Adam and Eve's children were not the rescuer.
 - Noah was not the rescuer.
 - Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and David are not the rescuers.
 - Every rescuer needed rescuing until we meet Jesus!
- We can only experience the sense of intimacy that Adam and Eve experienced in the Garden, through salvation that comes from Christ alone.

—[NOTES]—
