

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.



Message Recap:

Read Genesis 1:26-28.

The creation of the entire universe was centered on one thing: relationship. It was about a relationship with God, and relationships with each other. Even the infinite mysteries of time and space spark wonder and foster us to seek out relationship. When God first created man – Adam and Eve – they were in complete harmony with God. But even though they knew Him intimately, man was easily fooled by the snake at the mention of knowledge. Relationship is about experience, not knowledge, but man was tricked into mistrusting God. And so, life changed forever, yet we are still offered the same choice; relationship or knowledge. Only one truly leads to living and being with the creator of the heavens and the earth.

Pray

Lord, we ask that You help us to stop worrying about what all we know, and instead rely on just living and being with You in relationship. We get so easily distracted by the world and the lies that sow mistrust between each other, and between You and us. Remind us that You are love, and that we are called to dwell in that love every second of every day. Help us to remember why You created it all in the first place.

Getting Started

- How did you and your significant other or a dear friend meet? How did that relationship take root?
- What, to you, are the three most important things for a relationship to flourish?

Digging Deeper

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, rate your closeness to God? Why do you think that is?
2. What are some specific things that are distancing you from God?
3. What do you think it would take to draw closer in relationship to God? Name some practical things.
4. How are your relationships with others? Do you find you struggle with specific relational barriers?
5. Read Ephesians 6:10-12. Just as he did so long ago, the devil seeks to sow mistrust among us. How can we defend ourselves against his lies and tricks?
6. Have you had any moments when someone “restored your faith in humanity”?
7. What could you do to focus on seeing the best in others more consistently?

Living Jesus

God created the Garden of Eden for man to live in perfect relationship with him. Adam and Eve coexisted in this perfect connection with God, and though evil hadn't yet taken hold in their lives, the snake was still there. Until the moment that they listened to evil and let it take hold in their minds, they had everything they ever needed. As soon as they grasped for knowledge, the reality that we know today took over. Jesus was sent to earth to remind us that we could still walk with God. And even though he left, we still have that chance. We can still walk with God in perfect relationship, just as Adam and Eve did thousands of years ago. All we must do is pursue a relationship with him.

What's Your Story?

God gave us free will to choose our own paths. You can choose to simply know God; even to know all there is to know. You could study the Bible, religion, and theology for a hundred years, but you would not be any closer to experiencing who God truly is unless you understand being in his presence and experiencing his love firsthand.

Remember, relationship is about experience, not knowledge.

Knowledge is good but being is better. Be with God and you will surely come to know who he really is!

Share how God is working in your life at SevernRunner.info/stories.