



Title: Your Fig Leaf Is Showing

Date: 2.7.10

Series: In the Beginning

Text: Gen 3,4

Synopsis: We all know the dream. It's time for to perform. The house is packed. The stage is set. The curtain's getting ready to go up, and all of the sudden it hits you, "I don't know what song I'm supposed to sing!" What should I do? Should I run? Too late they've already seen me. Should I just make something up? I can't do that the music has already started. Just when you think it couldn't possibly get any worse it hits you. I'm not wearing any pants!

Sound familiar? Maybe for you it's a ball game, dance recital, or classroom, but in each dream, the dreamer is not wearing pants. Experts in dream analysis say that this dream of public nudity speaks to our feelings of vulnerability, shame and the fear of being exposed for who we really are. This is what Adam and Eve felt after humanity sinned for the first time. They thought, "What if God finds out we sinned? What if God finds out who we really are? What if God finds out we're naked?" They tried to hide behind crudely sown fig leaves, but that did little to cover them. And then we see God's true mercy and grace for the very first time. He lovingly makes them an appropriate garment that covers and protects the people he loves.

If were honest, most of us are still trying to hide behind our man-made, fig leaf loincloths. We hide behind our careers, our money, our talent, our addictions, even our spirituality. But these are just a few fig leaves sown together. God knows we are vulnerable. He knows who we are. He knows we are naked. And he clothes us just as he clothed the first husband and wife. Only now, we are not clothed in the hide of an animal, but with Jesus himself. He covers our shame, protects our vulnerability and gives us a new identity. So let's stop hiding behind fig leaves. After all, they don't cover us up very well anyway.