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Homily for 10th Sunday B
June 9/10, 2018

The more and more that I read and listen to the Book of Genesis, I realize how this first chapter of the Bible truly reminds us of many aspects of our life. It's literally all there: Creation, Love, Faith, Marriage, Success, Family, Failure, Betrayal, Mercy, Redemption. If one reads this book cover to cover, we will find them all.

Today's reading from Genesis is about failure and betrayal. God had given Adam and Eve everything around them. They were in Paradise! They had everything that they needed. But they wanted more and indeed they listened more to the Serpent (or the Devil) that tricked them than they did to God.

Then the betrayal turns into blame. When God starts to question Adam about what had happened, Adam tries to hide and shift the blame. It was the woman. Then Eve shifts the blame to the Serpent. Neither Adam and Eve wanted to take full responsibility for what they had done. It was someone else's fault that all this had happened. They were innocent; yet in reality their conscience and their guilt betrayed them that they had offended God.

Are we doing the same thing right now in our own lives? Are we hiding from God? Are we using some kind of excuse or finding a reason to blame someone else in our lives for our problems or for the things that have gone wrong? But look at what God did for Adam and Eve: He forced them to come face to face with what they had done. What will it take for us to come face to face with problems or conflicts in our lives that we are letting others or other things take the blame?

Even though trust was broken, the Love of God would still prevail. Yes, Adam and Eve would lose Paradise. But they were given another chance. Mercy would prevail, and God would open the door that He would send His Son and Paradise would be restored once again. In the same way, God gives us another chance and another chance and another chance. Yes, Mercy will prevail in our lives, if we just let God in and not hide.

This reading can help us to come face to face with the things in our lives that we are trying to hide. Spend some time later today thinking about this. Is there something that we are trying to hide from God? Have we hurt someone, do we need to reconcile, do we need to forgive someone, yet have withheld our forgiveness from them? As Adam and Eve found out, it's impossible to hide, but Mercy and Forgiveness are always possible.