1. **Introduction:** 
   1. **Note that Satan asked the first question in the Bible: that’s what he does… for reasons different than God.**
      1. **Satan asked the first question** (“***Has God said…?***”), **challenging their thinking** about **God’s command**.
   2. After they had sinned, ***“the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord”*** (Genesis 3:8; cf., Job 31:33; Psalms 94:7; Isaiah 29:15)
   3. **God’s 1st question** to man is*,* ***“Where are you?”*** (In what sense?)
2. **Why is God asking?**
   1. Doesn’t He know? Yes, but do we?
   2. **Why does God ask that?** He wants us to **think** & **consider** and ***“come to ourselves”*** and realize our spiritual death. (Luke 15:17)
   3. Not just **“where”** but **“why”** are you where you’re at? ***“Consider”*** how did you got “there”? (Ecclesiastes 7:14)
   4. Not **just now, but where this path leading you to**?
3. Biblical examples:
   1. Not where they should be:
      1. **Lot -** *“hesitated”* & remained in Sodom even after warned to flee. (Genesis 19:15-16;   
         cf., 13:12-13)
      2. **Esau** - standing at his dying father’s bedside pleading for a blessing? (Genesis 25:34; 27:36-38)
      3. **Balaam** - who went w/ Balak even though God told him not to because of a love of the things of this world. (Numbers 22:22-35; 2 Peter 2:15)
      4. **The seven tribes who had not received their inheritance** - (Joshua 18:1-3; cf., Exodus 23:30) they put off conquering the remainder of the land, finding it easier to remain where they were.
      5. **Reuben, Gilead, & Dan**- sat on the sidelines discussing and debating while the rest went to war. (Judges 5:15-18; cf., vs. 9, 18)
      6. **Israelite army** who remained standing on their side of the valley while Goliath taunted and defied God. (1 Samuel 17:3, vs. 40)
      7. **David** - on the roof of his palace where he could see a woman bathing rather than with his soldiers. (2 Samuel 11; Romans 13:13-14)
      8. **Esther** - she needed to go before the king but she initially played it safe out of fear and doubt and stayed home. She ended up going into the kings court, where she needed to be to make her petition and save her people. (Esther 4 & 5)
   2. Where they needed to be:
      1. **Noah - on an ark he spent 120 years building by faith in God.** (Hebrews 11:7)
      2. **Abraham - not at home but in a tent seeking a permanent home** (Hebrews 11:8-10)
      3. **Jacob** - **serving out of love**. (Genesis 29:20; 1 John 5:3)
      4. **Joseph** - 2nd in command in Egypt saving millions of lives because he continued to reverence and fear and trust in Him.
      5. **Moses** - **in the wilderness of Sinai shepherding sheep instead of the palace in Egypt because of faith in God’s promises**. (Hebrews 11:24-26)
      6. **Rahab** - **inside her residence per the instructions** because that’s where she and her family would be saved. (Joshua 2:18-19)
   3. God is Asking:
      1. In your thinking?
         1. **Have our thoughts taken us away from Him?**
         2. **Begin to think that God doesn’t see?** (Isaiah 29:15-16; 47:10; Ezekiel 8:12; Psalms 10:11; 94:7-12)
         3. **Not seeking Him or His will?** (Psalms 53:1-3; cf., Colossians 3:1-2)
         4. **We can’t hide our sins.** (Psalms 32:5; cf., Job 31:33)
      2. **In terms of where we used to be & where we should be?**
         1. Maybe we haven’t **“fled”** from the presence of the Lord like Jonah, but are we as close as we use to be?
         2. **Are we purposefully drawing near to God**? (James 4:7-8)
         3. **Have we drifted due to negligence?** (Hebrews 2:1-3)
      3. **In terms of Growth & maturity?**
         1. **Someone who needs guiding**? (Acts 8:31)
         2. **One who needs nurturing or someone who should be mature?** (Hebrews 5:12-6:1)
         3. **Becoming more or less spiritually minded?** (1 Corinthians 3:1-3; Romans 8:5-8)
         4. **Becoming distracted or “encumbered”?** (Hebrews 12:1; 1 Corinthians 7:35)
         5. **Become stagnant and indifferent**? (Zephaniah 1:12)
         6. **Lazy, inactive & lacking diligence**? (Matthew 25:26; Romans 12:11)
      4. **Are you lost?**
         1. **Needing direction?** *“Sheep without a shepherd”* (Mark 6:34; Luke 15)
         2. **Ever remember being separated from your parents?** (Matthew 10:28; Hebrews 10:31; 2 Corinthians 5:10-11)
         3. Psalms 119:176 – *“I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant…”* (Luke 19:10)
         4. **Do we wish to be found? Do we want reconciliation?** (Hebrews 7:25; James 4:8; Luke 15:17-19)
      5. **Where are you?**
         1. Are you where you ought to be?
         2. Are you where you need to be?
         3. Are you where you want to be?
         4. Are you *“in Christ”*? (Galatians 3:26-27)